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Ocean Energy Technology Study



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Preface

This study has been realized through funding from the Danish Council for Strategic Research's funding scheme "Funding of EU Networks".

The study has been initiated by the partners of the project "Network for improving Danish participation and access to EU-funding within the sphere of Renewable Offshore Energy." The following partners are included in the project consortium:

- Offshore Centre Denmark
- Lindø Offshore Renewables Centre
- Technical University of Denmark
- Aalborg University
- South Denmark EU Office

DanWEC has been contracted to carry out the study, using subcontractor consultant Kim Nielsen, Denmark, as lead author and principal investigator.

Erik Friis-Madsen, Löwenmark, Denmark, has contributed to this study by going through and provided a valuable database of available existing Danish and international ocean energy technology studies to the analysis of the most promising technologies of Ocean Energy systems, as well as providing a constructive review of this report.

The informative and inspiring feedback to questionnaires from WEC developers, Utilities, Universities and DNV is gratefully acknowledged.

Andy Jensen, Specialkonsulent

Forord (in Danish)

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- Offshore Center Danmark
- Lindø Offshore Renewables Center (LORC)
- DTU, Danmarks Tekniske Universitet
- Aalborg Universitet
- Det Syddanske EU-Kontor

DanWEC vandt kontrakten til at udføre studiet med bølgeenergikonsulent Kim Nielsen, Denmark, som underleverandør og hovedforfatter.

Erik Friis-Madsen, Löwenmark, Danmark har bidraget til studiet ved at gennemgå og stille en værdifuld database over eksisterende litteraturstudier vedr. dansk og internationale bølge og tidevands projekter til rådighed og dertil bidraget med konstruktiv kritik af nærværende rapport.

Endelig rettes en varm tak til den til de udviklere, el-selskaber, universiteter og DNV som har svaret på spørgeskemaer og bidraget via interviews.

Andy Jensen, Specialkonsulent

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1 Introduction

The interest and support for Ocean Energy is confirmed as shown by the news concerning government policies in Denmark, UK, France, Spain and Portugal with regards to Wave and Tidal energy.

On Thursday 22nd March 2012, the Danish Government and the opposition entered an agreement on the Danish energy policy for 2012-2020. With the political initiatives in the agreement, the CO2 emission in 2020 will be 34% less than in 1990 and energy consumption will be reduced by 12%. Approximately, 35% of the energy will come from renewable resources.

As part of this agreement, DKK100 million is allocated to promote development and use of new renewable electricity production technologies, as well as DKK25 million specifically for wave energy.

On 5th April 2012, the UK Government launched its eagerly awaited £20 million Marine Energy Array Demonstrator scheme (MEAD). This scheme will support up to 2 pre-commercial projects to demonstrate the operation of wave and/or tidal devices in array formation over a period of time.

The UK Energy and Climate Change Minister Greg Barker said: "This scheme will help move marine power to the next stage of development, the demonstration of a number of wave and tidal devices in array formation out at sea. This will take us one vital step closer to realising our ambitions of generating electricity from the waves and tides, powering homes and businesses across the whole of the UK with clean, green electricity".

This report gives a state of the art picture of Ocean Energy and will in particular focus on Wave Energy – with a review of the challenges facing this new industry and including recommendations concerning actions for the industry to grow.

2 Scope

The scope of this Ocean Energy Technology Study for the Alliance for Off-shore Renewables has been carried out to help answer the questions and illustrate the issues listed below:

1. What types of technologies to focus on and what to prioritize in funding opportunities in the area of ocean energy technology?
2. Identify the status and potential of the Danish and the international ocean energy sector.
3. Descriptions of technological challenges for the selected technologies (materials, design, fabrication, installation, operation & maintenance etc.)
4. Map of the industry, subcontracting industry and universities in the EU and Denmark.
5. Description of ocean energy and international market trends within the sector.
6. Selected cases with examples of cooperation and synergies between different actors.
7. Reviews of available existing Danish and international ocean energy technology studies to the analysis of the most promising technologies.

3 Summary and conclusions

From a European Ocean Energy Resources perspective, focus should be given to technologies suited to convert Wave, Tidal and Osmotic Power as Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) plants and Ocean Current converters are not considered relevant for European waters.

To prioritize R&D opportunities, structured development protocols and guidelines need to be implemented within the European funding agencies. Independent experts will be able to give priority to which application should be funded, if they have a common structure and screening tool.

Osmotic power:

Priority should be given to the development of more efficient membranes to be included in the technology associated with conversion Osmotic.

Tidal barrage:

Priority should be given to develop methods to reduce the environmental impact from barrage projects.

Tidal Stream:

Priority should be given to monitor and validate the performance from a range of concepts in order to identify the most reliable and cost effective solutions for installation, maintenance, grid connection and station keeping of the tidal current devices. This includes gravity bases, pile structures, as well as floating structures fixed via mooring lines and seabed anchors.

Wave Power:

Priority should be given to demonstrate a selection of different operating principles in order to identify the most efficient and reliable components, Power take-off (PTO) systems, moorings systems and electrical interconnections and grid connections. In parallel, priority should be given to integrate the learning from these field tests into basic research, focused on new or improved principles, materials, components and systems leading to more economic second and third generation devices.

Another important issue is to find ways for developers to form partnerships concerning further research and development and thereby increasing the value of invested funding by sharing the results.

Such co-operation should focus on areas (not core to the developer) such as:

- a. Foundations and mooring systems
- b. PTO (Power Take-off and Energy conversion system)
- c. Power cables to the floating power plants (umbilical / wet connectors)

The project specific feed-in tariff based on the performance of the device (forsk-VE component in Denmark) should be continued for future prototype testing.

It is recommended that within Europe, the possible locations for larger wave and tidal power plants, and how the power from such sites can be grid connected, should be identified. Such information is necessary to define the wave resource, design conditions, deployment and grid connection costs, required to carry out the Cost of Energy (COE) calculations.

Technological development within wave energy is therefore recommended to continue at all levels from basic research to demonstration of prototypes.

4 Indledning, sammenfatning og konklusioner (in Danish)

Indledning

Interessen for og støtten til bølge og tidevandsenergi udtrykkes og bekræftes jævnligt i nyhederne mht. politiske tiltag i Danmark, England, Frankrig, Spanien og Portugal.

Således indgik f.eks. den danske regering og oppositionen torsdag den 22. marts 2012 en aftale om energipolitik for perioden 2012 – 2020, som sigter på at reducere CO2 udslippet så det i 2020 er 34% mindre end i 1990, samtidig med at energiforbruget er reduceret med 12% og 35% af energiforbruget vil komme fra vedvarende energi.

Som en del af denne aftale er 100 millioner DKK afsat til at fremme brugen og udviklingen af nye vedvarende energiteknologier og 25 Mio. DKK specifikt til bølgeenergi.

Den 5. april 2012, lancerede regeringen i Storbritannien det længe ventede 20 millioner £ Marine Energy Array Demonstrator program (MEAD). Dette program vil støtte op til 2 projekter der endnu ikke er kommercielle, som kan demonstrere, hvordan bølge og/eller tidevandsparkers formationer fungerer over en længere tids periode.

Den engelske energi- og klimaminister Greg Barker sagde i den anledning: "Dette støtteprogram vil hjælpe udviklingen af havenergiteknologier til at komme til næste udviklingstrin, som er demonstration af et antal bølge og tidevandsparker til havs. Dette niveau vil tage os et vigtigt skridt nærmere mod en realisering af vores ambition om at generere elektricitet fra bølger og tidevand, som kan forsyne vores hjem og virksomheder i Storbritannien med ren, grøn elektricitet".

Denne rapport giver et state-of-the-art billede af de teknologier, der i dag er under udvikling og demonstration i havet, med specielt fokus på bølgeenergi og med en gennemgang af de udfordringer, som denne nye industri står over for – samt anbefalinger til tiltag, som kan få denne industri til at vokse.

Formål

Formålet med dette studie af teknologier til udnyttelse af havets energi udført for Alliancen for Grøn Offshore Energi har været at finde svar på og illustrere nedenstående spørgsmål og forhold:

1. Hvilke teknologier skal der sættes fokus på og hvordan skal man prioritere støttemuligheder indenfor teknologiområdet til udnyttelse af havets energi.
2. Identificer status og potentiale for den danske og internationale sektor omkring udnyttelse af energi fra havet.
3. Beskriv teknologiske udfordringer for udvalgte teknologier (materialer, design, fabrikation, installation, drift og vedligehold mv.)
4. Kortlæg industrien, underleverandører og universiteter i EU og Danmark
5. Beskriv nogle af de teknologier der er under udvikling til udnyttelse af havets energi og sektorens internationale markedstendenser
6. Udvalgte eksempler på synergi og samarbejde mellem forskellige aktører.
7. Gennemgå tilgængelig og eksisterende danske og internationale analyser af de mest lovende teknologier.

Sammenfatning og konklusioner

Ud fra et europæisk energiperspektiv, skal fokus rettes mod udvikling af teknologier der kan omforme **bølge-, tidevands- og osmotisk kraft**. Termisk energi fra havet - OTEC - anses ikke relevant i europæiske farvande.

For at prioritere muligheder på europæisk niveau inden for forskning, udvikling og demonstration (FUD), er det nødvendigt at der implementeres strukturerede forskningsprogrammer med veldefinerede udviklingstrin, protokoller og retningslinjer. Uvildige eksperter vil således med et fælles screeningsværktøj kunne prioritere de ansøgninger, der skal støttes.

Osmotisk kraft:

Der skal gives høj prioritet til udviklingen af effektive membraner, som kan indgå i teknologien, der omformer det osmotiske tryk.

Tidevandsdæmninger

Der skal prioriteres udvikling af metoder, som kan reducere de miljømæssige påvirkninger fra tidevands projekter, der inddæmmer kyst områder.

Tidevandsstrømningsenergi

Prioritet bør gives til at overvåge og validere ydeevnen af en række forskellige principper til omformning af tidevandsstrømning for at identificere de mest holdbare og økonomiske løsninger mht. installation, vedligeholdelse og fiksering til havbunden. Dette omfatter såvel gravitationsbaserede og piloterede løsninger, samt flydende strukturer fastgjort med ankerliner og ankre i havbunden.

Bølgekraft

Det bør prioriteres at demonstrere et udvalg af forskellige principper for at opnå praktisk erfaring og identificere de mest effektive og holdbare komponenter, energi-omformningssystemer (PTO), forankringssystemer og elektriske sammenkoblinger og tilslutninger til nettet. Parallelt bør det prioriteres at integrere resultaterne og erfaringerne fra denne "learning by doing" udvikling i mere grundlæggende forskning, som kan lede til nye, forbedrede og mere økonomiske principper, materialer, komponenter og systemer, som kan indgå i efterfølgende maskiner.

Et andet vigtigt område er at finde metoder, som kan inspirere til partnerskaber omkring videre forskning og udvikling, hvorigennem værdien af de investerede FUD midler udnyttes bedst gennem deling af resultaterne.

Sådan samarbejder, kan fokusere på områder, der ikke nødvendigvis er de enkelte udvikleres kerneområder f.eks.

- a. Funderings- og forankringsmetoder
- b. Energiomformningssystemer (PTO)
- c. Fleksible søkabelforbindelser til flydende konstruktioner (undervandsstik mm.)

Den projektspecifikke tillægstarif baseret på systemets ydelse (forsk-VE komponent) foreslås fortsat på fremtidige prototype forsøg.

Det anbefales, at der indenfor Europa identificeres, hvilke havområder der på sigt kan udbygges med bølgekraft og hvorledes disse kan forbindes til el-nettet. En sådan information er nødvendig for at definere bølgeenergiressourcen, designforhold, samt omkostninger forbundet med udlægning, netforbindelse og som basis for beregning af COE "Cost of Energy", dvs. den totale pris pr. produceret kWh.

Teknisk udvikling indenfor bølgekraft anbefales derfor fortsat understøttet på alle niveauer fra anvendt forskning til demonstration af prototyper.

5 Ocean Energy

What is ocean energy?

5.1 The Oceans Energy Sources

The oceans cover about 70% of the globe and ocean energy can be harvested from waves, tidal variations and currents, ocean currents, temperature- and salinity gradients. From satellites, the waves, tidal elevations, currents and temperatures can be observed.



Figure 1 The oceans cover 70% of the globe and can be monitored from satellites helping predict storms, wave and tidal conditions, as well as surface currents and temperatures [w1]

The annual energy potential from each Ocean Energy Source estimated in table 1 is based on values produced for the ICCP screening report [1] based on information from several sources. This indicates a total annual ocean energy resource of about 80.000 TWh/yr.

The global size of the Ocean Energy resource is roughly four times the global electricity demand which in 2008 was 16.819 TWh/yr and comparable to half of the primary energy production which was 143.851 TWh/yr in 2008.

Table 1 Global Ocean Energy Resources Estimates [1]

Ocean Energy Source	Annual Energy Resource
Wave	29.500 TWh/yr
Tidal (range & current)	8.000 TWh/yr
Currents	N/A
Thermal (OTEC)	44.000 TWh/yr
Osmotic (Blue energy)	2.000 TWh/yr
Total	83.500 TWh/yr

The practical extractable amount of ocean energy (how much will be utilized) is a question of economy, environmental concerns, alternative options, and the development and demonstration of reliable ocean energy technologies leading to positive environmental impact.

6 Prioritizing funding in the area of Ocean Energy

What types of Ocean Energy Technologies to focus on and how to prioritize R&D funding opportunities in the area?

From a European Ocean Energy Resources perspective, focus should be given to technologies suited to convert **Wave, Tidal and Osmotic Power**. The European resource concerning Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) and Ocean Current is limited and therefore not considered relevant for Europe (see Annex I).

To prioritize R&D opportunities, structured development protocols and guidelines need to be implemented within the European funding agencies. Independent experts will be able to give priority to which application should be funded, if they have a common structure and screening tool.

Osmotic Power has the potential to provide base load supply, as it can be produced when needed. With a global potential of more than 1600 TWh/yr, where 10% is in Europe, it represents a new attractive business potential for both the commercial power companies and technology suppliers. *Priority should be given to the development of more efficient membranes to be included in the technology associated with conversion Osmotic.*

Tidal Barrage Energy has a long history in Europe and earliest examples are dating back to 7th century in Northern Ireland. During the middle ages, tidal mills were wide spread in Europe along the coasts of Scotland, Wales, UK, Holland, Belgium, France, Spain and Portugal (www.moinhosdemare-europa.org). The tides have not changed over the centuries, and they are still predictable in time, as periodic events of high and low water level conditions twice a day.

The 240 MW La Rance tidal plant, built in 1966, is producing about 600GWh/year. The 254 MW Shiva project started operating 2011 in Korea. Discussions are ongoing in the UK for large tidal barrage projects, but environmental concerns have slowed down the development. *Priority should be given to develop methods to create positive environmental impact from barrage projects.*

Tidal Stream Technologies There is number of different technologies under development for extracting energy from tidal currents. Some may appear similar to those used for wind energy conversion, i.e. turbines of horizontal or vertical axis. In contrast to wind energy, the tidal currents are predictable.

With the present support structure in the UK, tidal stream technologies have developed rapidly over the last decade with a number of large demonstration projects in place in the UK and Ireland. It is likely that commercial forces will indicate which systems, technologies and installations principles are most suited to convert this very site specific tidal stream resource.

Priority should be given to monitor and validate the performance from a range of concepts in order to identify the most reliable and cost effective solutions for installation, maintenance, grid connection and station keeping of the tidal current devices. This includes gravity bases, pile structures, as well as floating structures fixed via mooring lines and seabed anchors.

Wave Energy has a global resource potential of 29.500 TWh/yr, where 10% is in Europe, and several European countries are facing coastlines with wave energy of different intensity per km coastline. There are differences from one country to the next e.g. in terms of how far off the coast the water reach 50 meter depth, the seabed can be of rock, sand, gravel or chalk. Some locations have large tidal height variation or currents whereas other locations do not. Some locations are covered by ice part of the year. These differences are to some extent reflected in the large number of technologies proposed for converting the power of the waves.

The Pelamis wave energy converter is today the most advanced off-shore system developed to a pre-commercial demonstration phase. Continuous development and support is required over the next 20-30 years, in order to develop more economic second and third generation wave energy conversion systems, as indicated in the roadmap from ETI [2](see Annex II).

Wave energy converters deployed at sea today can be seen as front runners i.e. technologies that with dedicated development teams, governmental support and industrial involvement and backup have been able to secure sufficient funding to develop and demonstrate that wave power can work and produce power.

In 2011, the first standards on how to measure and present the measured electrical output were developed under IEC-TC 114. Based on these standards, the power matrices measured at sea can be compared to results obtained in laboratory scales and simulated using numerical models, which will feed back into further R&D efforts.



Figure 2 Pelamis wave energy converter off the coast of the Orkney Islands [w2]

Priority should be given to demonstrate a selection of different operating principles, in order to identify the most efficient and reliable components, power take off systems, mooring systems, electrical interconnections and grid connections. In parallel, priority should be given to integrate the learning from these field tests into basic research, focused on new or improved principles, materials, components and systems leading to more economic second and third generation devices.

6.1 Research & Development

Due to the increasing number of wave energy converter (WEC) concepts, more than 100 are listed in the report by Thorpe [3]. Several initiatives have been taken to introduce the structured development programs described for wave energy [4] and for tidal energy [5] and comparable procedures for development, as described in proceedings of the European project [Equimar](#) [w3].

In Denmark, several different WECs are being tested at sea and some are ready to be deployed in larger scale at more exposed locations at sea. In response to this situation, the Danish funding agency EUDP has funded an "industrial partnership project" with the objective: *To find ways for developers to form partnerships concerning further research and development and increasing the value of invested funding by sharing the results.*

The partnership project has been carried out during the period 2011 – 2012 and included interviews with the technology developers and joint workshops. The results show that priority areas for joint development of wave energy conversion (in Denmark) are very similar to the priority areas identified under the ETI / UKERC Roadmap study [6] integrated in the European Energy Research Alliance's (EERA) Ocean Energy Joint Programme (section 10.6).

The priorities concerning wave energy development can be identified as:

Guidelines and standards

- Performance guidelines and technical specifications (IEC-PT 62600 is currently addressing these issues)

Device and system demonstrators

In Denmark, the time is ready to build and install at least 3 near-full scale prototypes of the competing WECs before 2016. It is suggested that these systems are tested at sea at a common test site (Danish Wave Energy Center) where cabling and monitoring costs can be shared.

The ETI UK study suggests (see annex II):

- 1st generation device and array sea trials
- Performance data collection
- Installation recovery methods
- Low-cost O&M techniques

Subcomponents

Cooperation and synergies between different technology developers and external specialized companies on development of vital common components and utilization of existing technologies to areas such as:

- Moorings (Foundations and mooring systems)
- Power Take-off (PTO) (Energy conversion system)
- Power cables to the floating power plants (umbilical / wet HV connectors)

New concepts and research

This includes new devices and component development with a potential to reduce the cost of electricity. Tracking the Cost of Energy (COE) will be mandatory (in Denmark), combining a standardized design method with a verified energy performance assessment (e.g. numerical and experimental).

Development of tools

Tools for resource analysis, design and optimization, device modeling, reliability modeling, array design, interaction modeling and analysis.

6.2 Market stimulation

Public funding authorities will typically require matching private investment even at this relative early stage of development. *It is therefore proposed that a project specific feed-in tariff based on the performance of the device (forsk-VE component in Denmark) is applied for future prototype testing.*

Such a performance based "feed-in" tariff will enable investors to have their investment returned, if the prototype project operates according to a pre-specified performance and maintenance scheme. Even if such project specific feed in tariffs are very high compared to other sources of energy, it will help support and develop the best systems, with a minimal risk for the public investment.

Such a scheme should give the investors return of investments if the WECs, which over a defined period of 2 to 5 years, have demonstrated performance, survivability, maintainability and reliability. Here after confidence will be sufficient to deploy a larger numbers of devices at pre-specified locations, incorporating whatever new knowledge established in the mean time.

6.3 Planning issues in different countries

In Denmark exists a tradition for one-stop-shop concerning permits for power production and deployment of WECs. This procedure is envied by colleagues e.g. in the USA, where projects can be years delayed because of "blue tape" in the official administration. Several Danish WEC developers hold such temporary permits at development step 3 & 4 as described in section 6.

It is recommended that within Europe, the possible locations of larger wave and tidal power plants should be identified, with due respect to how the power from such sites can be grid connected. Such information is necessary to define the wave resource, design conditions, deployment and grid connection costs, required to carry out the Cost of Energy (COE) calculations.

6.4 Optimisation and learning

The development is not a straight forward process i.e. lessons learned should be incorporated and perhaps new discoveries also. For each individual project the development spiral can illustrate this.



Figure 3 Symbol for the development spiral

Technological development within wave energy is therefore recommended to continue at all levels from basic research to demonstration of prototypes and arrays. From a Danish view point wave energy systems are not ready today to be tested in Arrays until at least a few years of performance demonstration from a single prototype has been accomplished, as indicated in table 2.

The table below shows how the different stages of WEC development could be foreseen to development based on the strategy proposed in this report.

The stages of WEC development are described in the reports from the OWEC-1 [7], the Danish wave energy program [8], [Equimar](#) [W3], and IEA-OES [4] and on page 22 of this report.

Table 2 Proposed development schedule for Wave Energy in Europe

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Basic research & Development stage 1 & 2								
Component and device development at stage 3								
Prototype testing at stage 4 (DanWEC)								
				Pilot project of array				

This section is partly based on the methodology and outcome of the UKERC and ETI study, the Equimar project and the IEA-OES Annex II methodologies and the Danish partnership project carried out between Danish wave energy developers and associated companies, in which DanWEC has participated as an observer.

The Danish Industrial Partnership Project led by Aalborg University was initiated in March 2011 and a first draft strategy report presented and discussed at a partnership meeting March 22, 2012 in Hanstholm, Denmark.

7 Reviews of studies of the most promising technologies

There are a number of studies concerning selection of the most promising technologies within wave energy and some of the most recent includes numerical models, in order to calculate the wave energy converters performance.

The conclusion from these studies is that so far there is no consistent way to predict which system for converting wave energy that eventually will take the lead. Even with a broad selection of different sizes, operating principles and locations, the results are not significantly different according to [9]:

- The annual absorbed energy per characteristic mass was found to be in the order of 1 MWh/tonne, whatever the device.

In order to identify the most promising technology, a more fruitful procedure can be to take the development forward in steps, as mentioned above, combined with check procedures for instance as described by the utility [ESBI](#) [w4].

This readiness levels described includes a check-list at each step of development – such a check list could be helpful also in relation to public funding agencies concerning when the development is ready to move from one step to the next at the fundamental levels until the developers are ready to enter into a negotiation with utilities.

The incorporation of calculation of Cost of Energy – even in a simplified and standardized form – can help identify and prioritize the areas that should be developed further i.e. a standardised Cost of Energy calculation tool in excel has been developed by Energinet.DK and can be [downloaded](#) [w5].

7.1 Recommendation

Development in steps combined with check points such as recommended by ESBI and certification guideless by DNV, numerical and experimental verification, cost calculations such as recommended by IEA_OES and Energinet.dk.

The Carbon Trust's studies Future Marine Energy 2006 identified that the following areas of innovation, as having most potential for cost of energy (CoE) reductions:

- Device components – Research into lowering costs and improving performance of specific components in existing marine energy devices.
- Installation, operation and maintenance – Developing strategies to enable marine energy devices to be installed, operated and maintained at a lower cost.
- Next generation concepts – Developing new device concepts that could significantly lower the costs of marine energy compared to current front runners.

The Marine Energy Accelerator (MEA) [12] focused on these areas and concluded:

Adding innovation to the learning by doing curve significantly accelerates cost reduction relative to the baseline case.

Survivability

The MEA's study on costs of wave energy has shown that to compete with other renewable energy technologies, wave energy developers will in the medium term need to exploit high energy sites. These sites generally also have larger extreme waves, so developers must make sure that their devices are designed with survivability built in.

Operations and maintenance

MEA's analysis has also shown that operations and maintenance (O&M) costs make up around a quarter of wave levelised cost of energy. This means that the development of efficient O&M strategies must be a priority. Examples in the following chapter show clearly that innovative O&M strategies or technologies can significantly reduce lifetime costs at the device level, primarily by increasing the range of sea conditions in which O&M can be undertaken, and by reducing the time required for operations. At the array level, there are also opportunities for reducing O&M costs by developing efficient deployment and recovery strategies for multiple devices, and by exploiting economies of scale for planned maintenance. The simplest way to achieve low O&M costs is to build extremely reliable devices that need very little maintenance.

Connection cost, and depth

The high baseline cost of wave energy also suggests that wave energy developers will need to go relatively far offshore to energetic waters to generate competitively priced electricity. This will require particular focus on reducing the cost of cabling and connection to the national grid, perhaps by simplifying procedures or by using lighter weight moorings or foundations and ensuring that devices can be installed in deep water. If transit times to port are high, or if developers need to go far offshore to access good resources, the focus on reducing planned and unplanned maintenance interventions will be even more important.

8 The status and potential of the ocean energy sector

INSTALLED CAPACITY

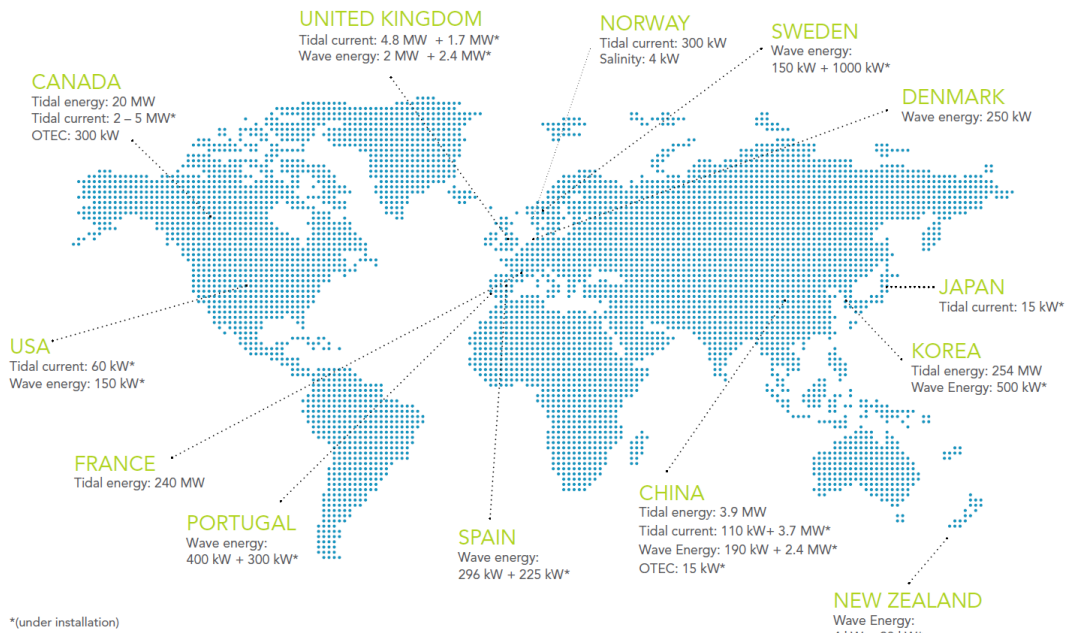


Figure 4 Installed capacities of Ocean Energy Systems 2011 [OES][w6]

There are an increasing number of devices under development worldwide and the installed capacity of wave & tidal systems at sea is shown on figure 4 above. Within Europe, the countries with installed wave and tidal energy systems are summarized in the table below with indications of the targets in respective countries.

Table 3 Status and targets of Wave and Tidal energy in Europe [OES][w6]

2011	Wave Power		Tidal	
	Status kW	Target 2020 MW	Status MW	Target MW
UK	2000		4,80	2.000 ¹
Ireland		500		
France		200	240 ²	800
Portugal	400	300		
Spain	300	100		
Sweden	150			
Denmark	250			

¹ Target for combine wave and Tidal

² La Rance tidal barrage

8.1 Status in selected countries

8.1.1 The UK

In the UK, there is set a target for 2000MW Ocean Energy by 2020 and in March 2010 the Crown Estate announced the names of the successful bidders for the world's first commercial wave and tidal leasing round, for ten sites in Scotland's Pentland Firth and Orkney waters. The leasing comprised 1200 MW of installed capacity of wave and tidal energy developers for 2020, 600 MW from each.

The developers who have signed a total of ten agreements for lease are:

Wave:

- SSE Renewables Developments Ltd, 200 MW for Costa Head site
- Aquamarine Power Ltd & SSE Renewables Developments Ltd, 200 MW for Brough Head site
- Scottish Power Renewables UK Ltd, 50 MW for Marwick Head site
- E.ON, 50 MW for West Orkney South site
- E.ON, 50 MW for West Orkney Middle South site
- Pelamis Wave Power Ltd, 50 MW for Armadale site.

Tidal:

- SSE Renewables Developments (UK) Ltd, 200 MW for Westray South site
- SSE Renewables Holdings (UK) Ltd & OpenHydro Site Development Ltd, 200 MW for Cantick Head site
- Marine Current Turbines Ltd, 100 MW for Brough Ness site
- Scottish Power Renewables UK Ltd, 100 MW for Ness of Duncansby site.

The sites are shown on the figure below:

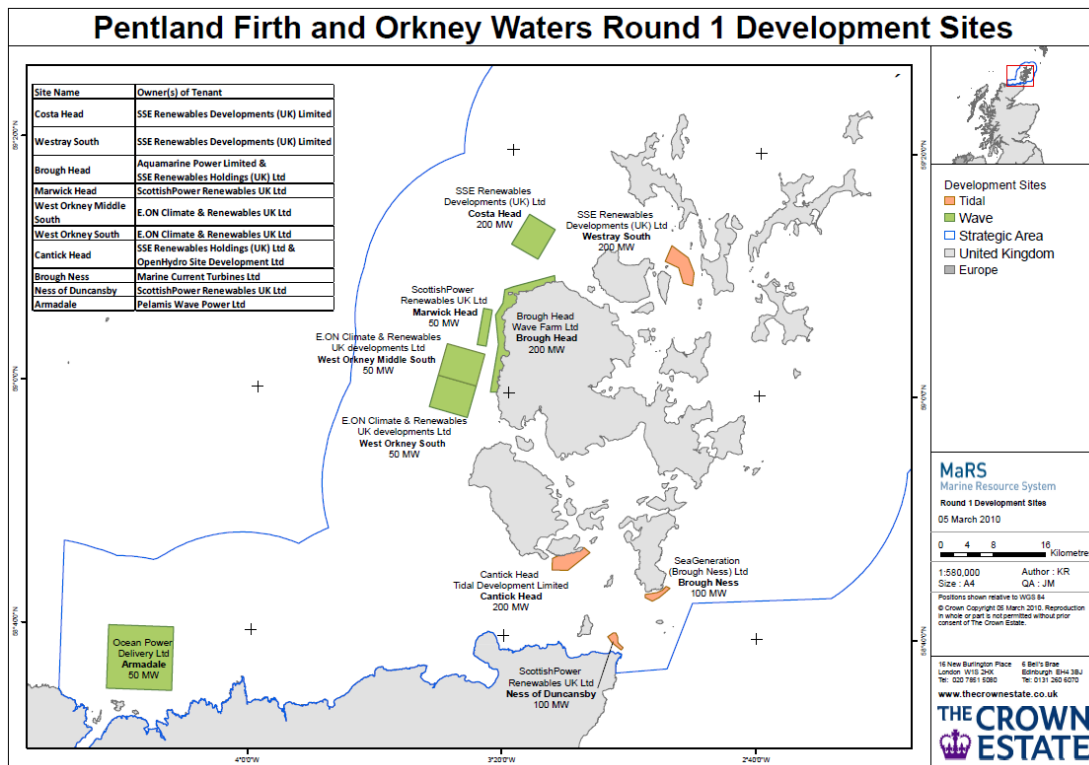


Figure 5 Sites for wave and tidal energy projects in the UK announced March 2010 [w7].

Some of the technologies being developed in the UK are shown below.

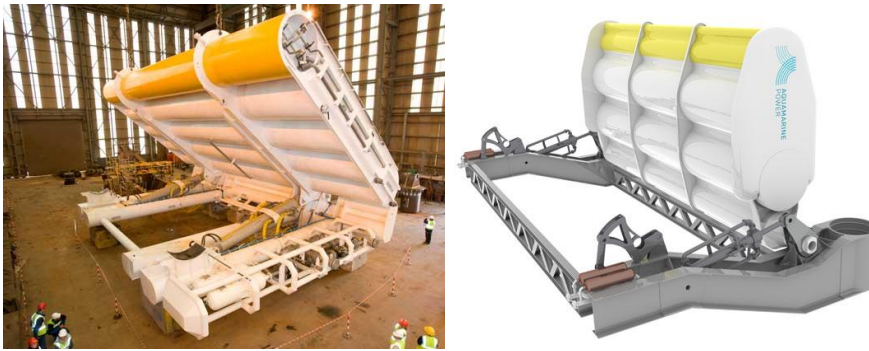


Figure 6 The Aquamarine Oyster Device [w8] is presently being tested at the test site EMEC in Orkney[w9]



Figure 7 The snake-like WEC Pelamis [w2]



Figure 8 Marine Current Turbines (MCT) SeaGen 1.2 MW installed in 2009 [w10]

Test site activity at the European Marine Energy Centre EMEC:

- Pelamis P2 750kW Machine (Commissioned by Eon)
- Pelamis P2 750kW Machine (Commissioned by Scottish Power Ren.)
- Aquamarine Power Limited – Oyster 800 Stage 1
- Wello Oy Penguin 500 kW wave converter

- Open Hydro 250kW Open Centred tidal turbine deployed
- Open Hydro – 600kW turbine deployed (not grid connected)
- Tidal Generation Ltd 500kW tidal turbine deployed
- Atlantis Resources Corporation AR1000 1 MW tidal turbine deployed
- Scotrenewables SR250 floating tidal turbine deployed
- Hammerfest Strom 1MW tidal turbine deployed
- Voith Hydro tidal turbine

8.1.2 Ireland

The Government in Ireland has set a target of 500 MW Ocean Energy by 2020. The government has allocated €27m to be administrated by the [Ocean Energy Deployment Unit](#) [w11].

The utility [ESBI](#) [w12] has actively been involved in Ocean Energy technology and resource studies as well as helping develop guidelines for Electrical connections. ESBI also has a target of owning 150 MW of generation from the emerging area of wave and tidal energy in its portfolio by 2020. WestWave represents the third and final step in the Irish Government's Ocean Energy Strategy before commercial projects can begin to achieve the Government's target of 500MW by 2020. WECs investigated as part of the West Wave project in Ireland:



Figure 9 WECs included in the West Wave project [w2,w13,w14,w8]

The [West Wave Project](#) [w15]

WestWave is a collaborative project between the major players in the Irish wave energy development sector, who share the common goal of putting Ireland at the forefront of ocean energy globally. The project brings technology developers, electricity providers and government bodies together to demonstrate how wave farms can be built and operated in Ireland.

WestWave aims to install and operate WEC's capable of generating 5 MW of clean electricity by 2015, while harvesting only a tiny fraction of the massive power hitting the west coast of Ireland. By building a wave farm of 5 MW, the project will demonstrate Ireland's ability to construct, deploy and operate wave energy converters. It will also pave the way for commercial projects, in terms of consenting procedures, such as foreshore licensing, permitting, electrical grid access and local infrastructure.

The tidal stream technology Open Hydro project is based in Ireland.

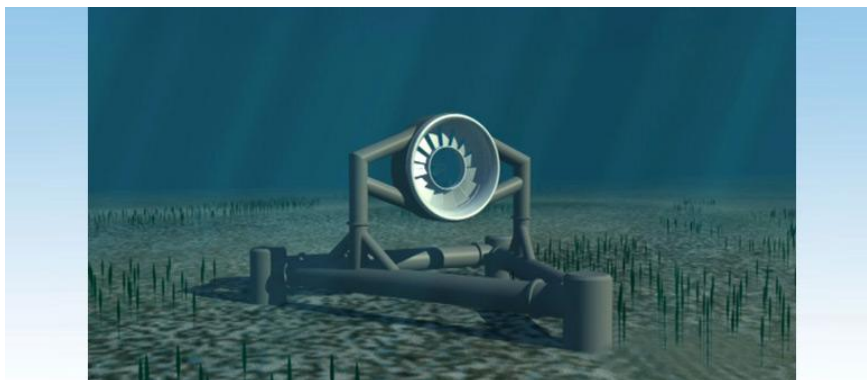


Figure 10 Open Hydro, Tidal energy system [w16]

8.1.3 France

France has set a target of 1000 MW of power from ocean energy by 2020.

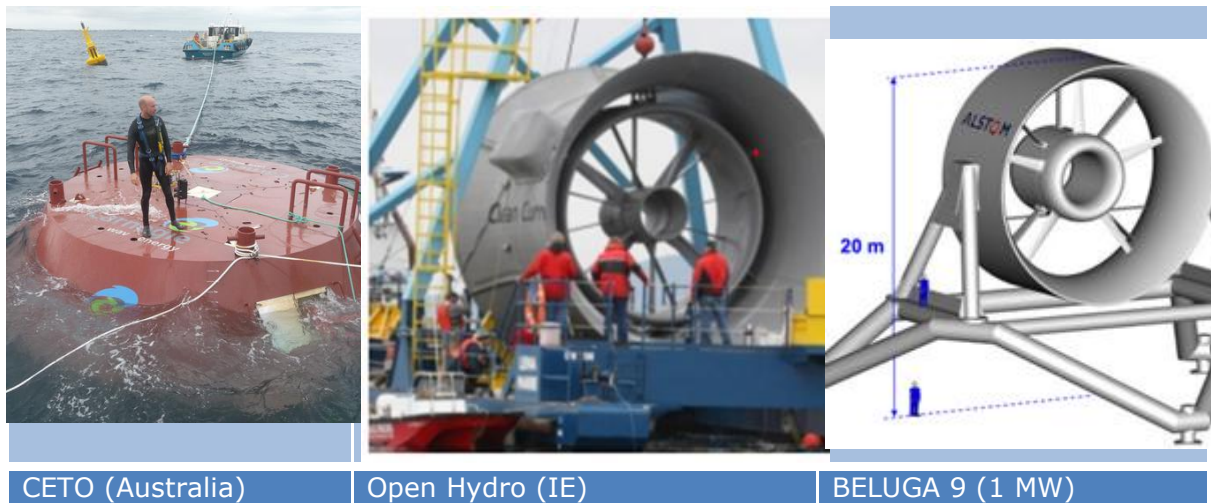


Figure 11 Wave and tidal systems investigated in France [w17, w16, w18]

The EDF group, through its subsidiary EDF Energies Nouvelles, is running a wave energy demonstration project, based on the CETO technology, a submerged point absorber moored to the seabed via hydraulic pump, off the coast of Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean.

The company responded to the NER300 call for tenders with a proposal for a 17MW tidal turbine farm, known as Normandie Hydro, and a 26 MW floating offshore wind farm, known as Provence Grand Large, both of them to be developed off the French coast. To assess the potential operating performance of tidal array systems, the R&D division of EDF group builds on existing knowledge relating to the physics of the flow around tidal turbines in order to account for the presence of a tidal farm in its numerical models.

Alstom has installed its ocean energy expertise centre in Nantes in the west of France and has deployed a fully dedicated team of 40 people to further develop, industrialize and commercialize the tidal technology. With a capacity of 1MW and a 13m turbine inlet diameter, BELUGA 9 [w18] will be the first commercial scale demonstrator to be tested in 2012 in the Bay of Fundy, Nova Scotia, Canada.

A second demonstrator with a bigger diameter, ORCA, is being developed, and planned to be tested in 2013 in the French tidal test site of Paimpol-Bréhat.

Test sites

The SEM-REV [w19] onshore facilities were achieved by the end of 2011. Offices and technical facilities will be equipped in early 2012 and staff will start working full time at Le Croisic town, which is the land base of the test site. A first contract has been signed with the company SBM, which has publicly announced its funding from the French renewable energy organization ADEME.

The SeaRev [w20] wave project was developed at University Ecole de Nante.

8.1.4 Portugal

The target in Portugal is to install 300 MW wave power by 2020. Portugal has established a high feed in tariff for wave energy and a **pilot zone** for testing up to 250MW of WECs [w21].

The first Oscillating Water Column (OWC) plant of 400 kW was built on the Azores Pico Island in 1985 [w22], and since 2004 the plant has been run and operated by the Wave Energy Center (WavEC). Portugal has adapted a politic that attracts developers from abroad to build wave energy plants in Portugal.

In this way, the Dutch project AWS project carried out in Portugal from Porto, as well as the first array of three 750 kW Pelamis wave energy devices in 2009. With EU funding WaveRoller (Finland), OPT (USA), WaveBob (Ireland) and Wave Dragon (Denmark) have been attracted to explore opportunities for development in Portugal.



Figure 12 Portugal attracts foreign developers of wave energy [w22,w2,w23,w24,w13,w25]

The utilities EDP and Energy Company Galp Energy are involved in Wave Energy in Portugal. EDP also holds a stake of €9 million in the wave-energy Aguçadoura project, which was launched off the Portugal coast with 2.25 MW in September 2009 composed of 3 Pelamis wave-energy converters.

Technical University of Lisbon (IST) [w26], is doing research on floating OWC converters, numerical work on the IPS buoy wave energy converter and a new type of self-rectifying radial-flow air turbine.

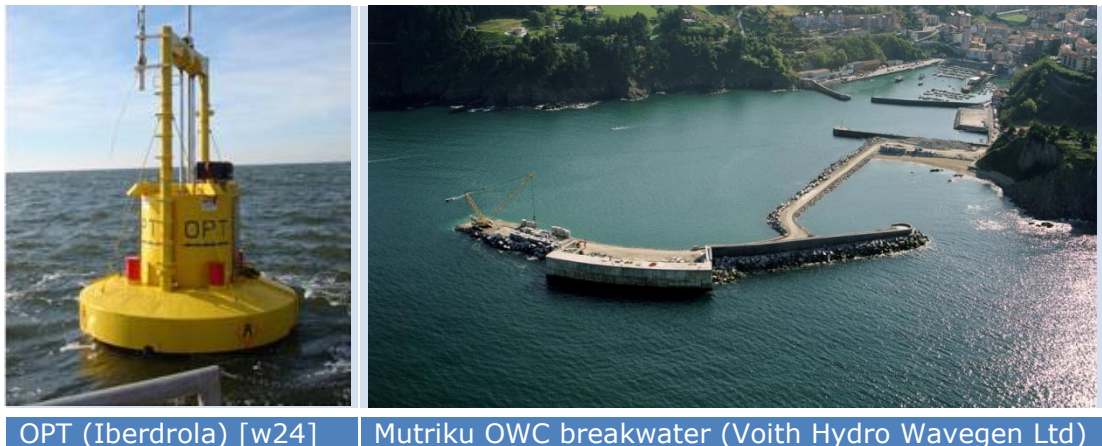
The Wave Energy Centre (WavEC) [w27], is a private non-profit association that has been leading a European partnership designed to provide a high quality platform for training young applied researchers in relevant areas of wave energy. The Wavetrain2 (2009-2012) follows the Wavetrain RTN (2004 – 2008).

In addition, WavEC holds the secretariat for IEA-OES and have been partner in almost all European projects on Ocean Energy (see section 8.4).

8.1.5 Spain

Spain has a target of about 100 MW by 2020 to be deployed at sites in the Northern part of Spain. Compared to other European countries such as UK, DK, NO, PT and SW, Spain is a relative new player on developing wave energy, but since 2005 Spain has showed a fast growing interest in this field.

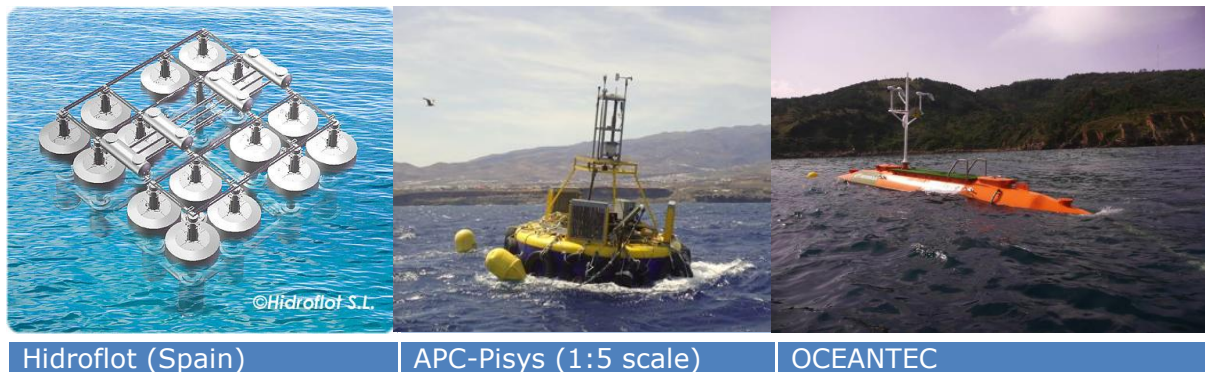
In November 2011, the 300 kW Mutriku OWC wave power plant was handed over to EVE (the Basque energy agency) [w28]. equipped with 16 air turbines from Voith Hydro Wavegen and guarantees for performance and availability. The plant is housed within a breakwater at the port of Mutriku. During commissioning and acceptance testing, the plant has produced 100MWh to the grid.



OPT (Iberdrola) [w24] | Mutriku OWC breakwater (Voith Hydro Wavegen Ltd)

Figure 13 Spanish projects includes the 300 kW OWC Mutriku breakwater

OPT is interested in the Spanish market, and also three technologies shown below were investigated in the period 2008-10 co-ordinated by Technalia. The APC-Pisys is now defining a project aimed to design, build and deploy a 1:5 scale wave energy converter prototype during 2012.



Hydroflot (Spain) | APC-Pisys (1:5 scale) | OCEANTEC

Figure 14 Three technologies developed in one project co-ordinated by Technalia [w29,w30,w31]

Test Sites

The Biscay Marine Energy Platform (bimep)[32], occupies a 5.3 km² marked area excluded for navigation and maritime traffic, and located at a minimum distance of 1,700 m from shore, close enough for fast access to deployed devices. The total power of 20 MW is distributed over four offshore connection points of 5 MW each at 50-90 m water depths. bimep is expected to commence operations in the last quarter of 2012.

8.1.6 Sweden

A marine spatial planning process of the Swedish territorial coastal waters is planned to commence in 2012. Areas with potential for energy conversion by wave power plants, if applicable, will be identified during this process.

Sweden was a pioneer within wave power in the early 1970s and hosted the first international symposium on wave energy in 1979 in Gothenburg. Since Mats Lejon and his students at Uppsala University in 2002 started working on the "Point Absorber", driving a direct electricity producing linear generator placed on the seabed, Sweden has taken a renewed interest in wave power. In many ways, this Seabased system compares to the Danish Wave Power system developed and tested in the 1980s.

The company Seabased [33] was formed in 2002 to develop the research at Uppsala University related to linear generator wave power. During the period 2006 – 2011, the Lysekil project was carried out focusing on ocean tests, generator and buoy design, and model development, including a 10-unit field research site including a submarine switchgear and sea cable connection to load.

In 2009, Seabased received funding for a pilot 10 MW project consisting of 420 floats to be built at the Swedish west coast at Sotenäs municipality by 2015. The project is financed by state funding from the Swedish Energy Agency and the utility company Fortum. The objective is to verify that the technology can generate 25 GWh/yr from wave climate off the west coast of Sweden.



Figure 15 Seabased, ready to bring wave energy to the world! [w33]

Uppsala University has developed and tested a low speed marine current technology. A prototype project Minesto, including testing at Strangford Lough, Northern Ireland, has been funded by the Swedish Energy Agency.

Test site

The Ocean Energy Centre (OEC) [w34], connected to Chalmers University at the Swedish west coast near Göteborg, was established during 2011. The purpose of OEC is to develop into a public-private sector platform that is able to support the applied research of the growing number of developers in the region. OEC is currently supported by a regional grant.

8.1.7 Denmark

Denmark today has some of the best documented wave power concepts in the world. This has been achieved with relatively modest funds, as the development of projects typically has been carried out gradually scaling up and documenting the technologies. This has minimized the economic and security risks. A highly professional level has been achieved through cooperation between research institutions, project developers and industry.

The Danish Wave Energy Program is often referred to as a unique program in the world and what was unique is that the program had a bottom up approach, implementing a development protocol, funding the projects at early stage with 100% and by doing so retaining the right to publish the performance and results in the public domain.

The Danish Wave Energy Program, with a budget of 6 M€ over the period 1998 – 2001 [8], focused on the first three steps of this development in which more than 40 different ideas were tested at initial phase (step1), about 15 projects more elaborate tested at step 2 and only **the Wave Dragon Project** reached step 3 within the program period, building a prototype of 20 kW for research and test at the benign test site in Nissum Bredning.

The development protocol described a procedure in which the WECs roughly could be developed in five steps, where the WEC is gradually built and tested in larger and larger scale – while design, components, power take-off and numerical and economical calculations are conducted with increasing accuracy. This development procedure is not only technical, but evenly suitable for teambuilding, development of business models and optimization of the technology underway.

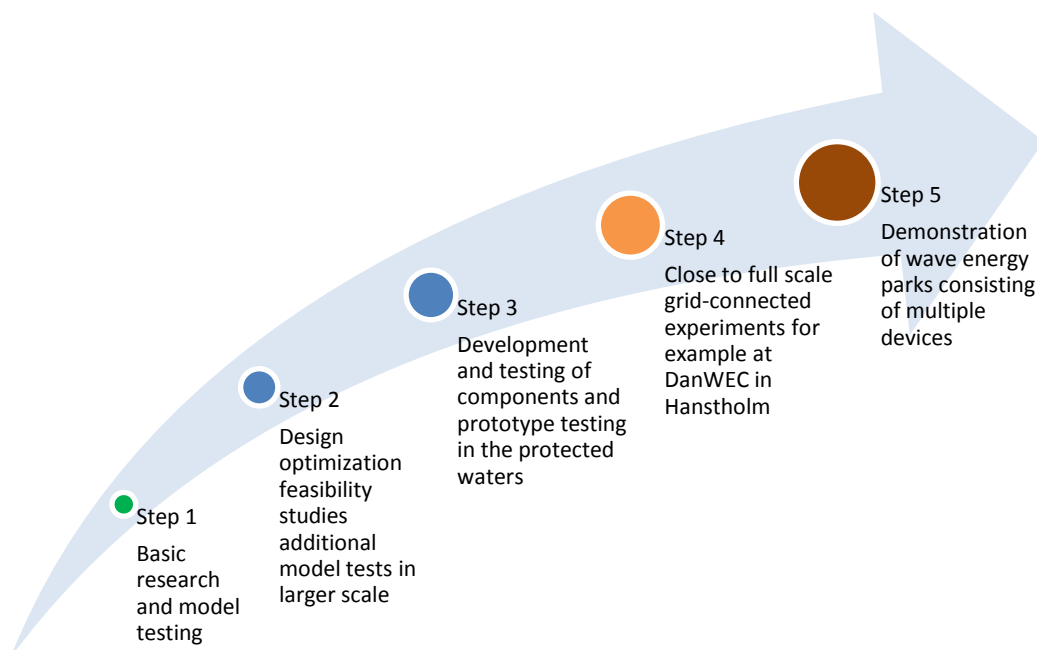


Figure 16 The typical steps of wave energy development in DK.

Each step has its own challenges and from successful completion of one step to the next, the projects technological readiness level (TRL) increases, with a minimal risk in terms of investment. If major design changes are considered or enforced, the device development can shift back to the relevant step.

The five steps are described below with examples of Danish projects at each step.

Step 1: Concerns **initial testing of new ideas and concepts**, typically it includes building of a model representing the idea for initial testing in a wave flume or tank in co-operation with a university, typically Aalborg University (AAU) in Denmark. AAU has in this way carried out numerous experiments with different concepts, and documented the results in a standardized report format. Some experiments have formed the basis for PhD projects and development of new ideas. The tank testing protocol further formed the basis for the first Annex II of the IEA-OES implementing agreement in [13, w35].

Step 2: This concerns **further development and laboratory testing** of selected concepts, with a view to obtaining quantitative results for survivability and energy efficiency, etc., studies are carried out in wave tanks and typically combined with numerical modeling. Of the 15 phase 2 projects, which was tested during the wave energy program, described in the report [8], four of the initiated projects has since then been developed further in the Denmark. The SWAN dk3 project was based on the Japanese **BBDB concept** is now taken further in Japan and in Ireland – known as the **OE Buoy** [w14].

Step 3: Prototype development and testing in the Danish practice has proven to include long-term testing of small scale pilot projects in protected sea areas, while business models and partnerships are developed and established. **Wave Dragon** [w36] was built in scale 1:4,5 and launched in 2002 and tested in the Danish sheltered site Nissum Bredning, until the ice winter 2009. **Waveplane** [w37] has tested a smaller prototype in Ringkøbing fjord for private funds. The project “Tusind ben” was continued as the **Wavestar** [w38] and during the period 2006 – 2010 it was tested at Nissum Bredning test site in scale 1:10, where it has produced data and power. The project “Poseidons organ” has been developed further as a **Floating Power Plant** [w39], built and tested at the offshore windmill park Vindeby in the period 2007-2011. **Dexawave** [w40] installed a small prototype in 2009 followed by a larger version installed at Hanstholm in 2011.

Step 4 Demonstration in larger scale. This step includes the installation of a larger electricity producing prototype in order to verify in detail its performance in realistic sea conditions. **Wavestar** build and installed a section of a 1.2 scale machine in Hanstholm in 2009. Connected to the electricity grid this machine has produced electricity to the grid over a two-year period. A special performance based tariff is agreed with Energinet.dk which is paid for the electricity or absorbed power produced in accordance with predictions.

Step 5 Commercialization. To the extent that a project has documented its energy production and economics and contracted or sold one or more prototypes e.g. to an energy company, the project has reached step 5. Presently, there are no Danish projects that have reached this level.

Test Site

With the testing of Wavestar and Dexawave at Hanstholm the test site DanWEC [w41], situated at the west coast of Denmark, is in the process of building up its infrastructure to become a green lab and the site for future testing of WECs in Denmark at a scale somewhat smaller than required e.g. at EMEC, as described in the OES Annex II report [14].

9 Challenges for selected Wave Energy Technologies

This section will describe some of the challenges associated with selected wave energy technologies and with their application in relation to water-depth and distance to the shore, their mooring system and type of Power take-off system. This classification was outlined in the Offshore Wave Energy Project OWEC-1 [7].

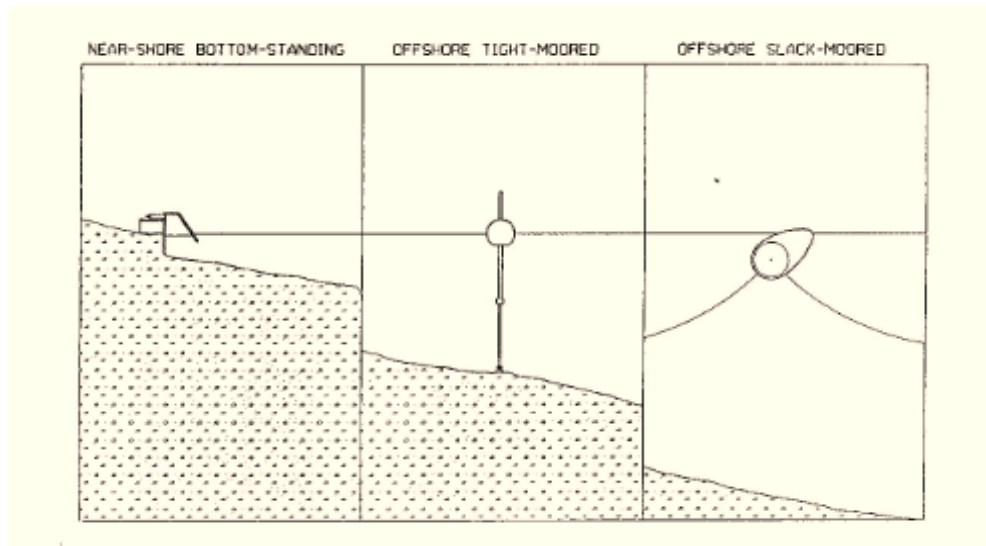


Figure 17 Off-shore Wave energy converter study, OWEC-1 report 1996

This section will give examples of selected WECs structured according to the location with respect to water depth, mooring and PTO type:

1. *Shore and near-shore bottom standing*
2. *Off-shore taught-moored*
3. *Off-shore slack-moored*

The first group is the most developed – apparently since the structure is fixed. The taught moored systems extract the energy relative to the seabed. The slack moored systems absorb the wave energy in a number of ways relative to or by the main structure itself and are typically installed on the deepest water depths.

PTO systems being considered include:

- Pneumatic air turbines (single, manifold, closed or open systems)
- Hydraulics (oil or water-hydraulics, open and closed system)
- Linear electrical generators (of different types)
- Mechanical PTO (linear or rotational)

These possible combinations reveal that many variations of WECs can be expected. In the next section, the technological challenges associated with selected examples are described. The challenges mentioned are based on the author's personal experience from working with the development of wave energy over a period of more than 30 years - and the future development will show how the developers will solve these challenges.

9.1 Shore and Near-shore Bottom Standing Devices

9.1.1 Shore-based OWC

There are a number of shore-based Oscillating Water Columns (OWC) WECs in operation, on Islay in Scotland, the Pico plant on the Azores in Portugal, at the port Mutriku breakwater in Spain, Sagata port Japan and OceanLinx Australia.



Pico Plant of 400 kW on the Azores in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean



WaveGEN 500 kW, Islay UK
Courtesy of Voith Hydro Wavegen Ltd.

Mutriku 300 kW, WaveGEN Spain
Courtesy of Voith Hydro Wavegen Ltd.

There are several types of air turbines considered suitable for OWCs at the moment and these are:

- Wells turbine
- Denniss-Auld turbine (Australia)
- HydroAir
- Bi-radial turbine, (Portugal)

The unidirectional rotation of air turbine (Wells) was originally seen as the simplest way of converting the oscillating power from waves, due to the fact that the need for check-valves can be omitted and the structure thus constructed with less moving parts.

The limited availability of suitable onshore sites with access to grid and infrastructure suggest a limited long term potential for shore-based OWC. The OWC principle can also be adapted on near shore tight moored structures as well as off-shore slack moored structures.

The shore based OWCs provide a valuable test bed with easy access to monitor and develop more efficient variable pitch turbines as well as gaining practical experience with the grid connection and operation of air turbine machinery.

9.1.2 Near-shore bottom standing converter

The [Wavestar](#) [w38] installed at Hanstholm in Denmark holds deployment and power generation permit up to November 2013. The plant consists of two Ø5 m floats which activated by the waves move up and down and a hydraulic PTO system which drives a generator that produces electricity. In cases of extreme conditions, the floaters are lifted out of the water and in even more extreme situations, the whole construction can be jacked up and down on four steel tubes, which are attached to a concrete foundation on the seabed.

The principles of Wavestar was tested in Nissum Bredning in scale 1:10 before being tested in larger scale and in a rougher environment at Hanstholm. The present test unit has a generator capacity of 80 kW and maximum measured an average power output of around 40 kW. Daily and monthly summaries of production data are presented online and these data forms the basis for a payment based on a project specific performance "feed-in" tariff agreed with Energinet.dk.

During 2011, [DanWEC](#) [w41] introduced tours with the opportunity to visit Wavestar that can be accessed via a 400-metre bridge leading to the structure from the shore. This has proved to be a unique way to promote an understanding of wave power for families, companies, schools, and prominent personalities such as climate and energy ministers as well as the Crown Prince of Denmark.



Figure 18 Wavestar in operation.

Wavestar is involved in a number of development activities aiming at increasing energy production and reducing costs. This includes the development of improved control strategies for the PTO, materials research (section 9.2) and participating in EU projects with partners from the UK, Poland and Spain.

Wavestar is developed based on a unique safety system, whereby it can lift the floaters out of the water in storm situations. This feature has enabled Wavestar to survive in the harsh environment over several years so far. The challenge lies in how to develop more cost effective structures and a high efficient PTO system. Combined wind and wave farms could provide synergies in relation to grid connections, use of sea space, energy production and use of O&M personal. Wavestar has entered a co-operation agreement with the utility DongEnergy to investigate this issue further.

9.1.3 Near-shore semi/submerged seabed mounted structures

Oyster was announced in 2001 by Professor Trevor Whittaker's team at Queens University in Belfast. It is a structure fixed to the seabed and Oyster consists of a flap, moved back and forth by the waves. Power is taken out through hydraulic pumps mounted between the flap and the structure pinned to the seabed. The company Aquamarine has been voted the best place to work in the UK and has guaranteed millions of £ to the development of Oyster and the team of more than 60 employees. The latest generation Oyster 800 has an installed capacity of 800 kW. It has a width 26m and height of 12 m and will be installed in a water depth of 13 meters approx. 500 metres from the coast of Orkney at EMEC.



Oyster, Scotland
[w8]



WaveRoller, Peniche Portugal, 2012.
[w25]

The challenge that these submerged flap structures faces are related to the near-shore sites that they are supposed to operate in. At near shore conditions, deep-water waves becomes shallow water waves with increased horizontal motion of the water at the seabed, eventually the waves break and the energy is dissipated.

Introduced to the EMEC test conditions some years ago, it was mentioned as an example to illustrate the roughness of the environment that huge rocks are thrown by the waves onto the beach, and one can only refer to the wise words of professor Stephen Salter: "buckets of water on your head hurt less than buckets of stones". This survival issue is one of the major site related challenge facing the testing of Oyster.

At the shore of Portugal, where the Wave-Roller system will be installed, the conditions are less rough and the perspectives for survival probably greater, but also here the submerged operations required for installation, inspections and maintenance will be a challenge.

9.2 Offshore tight-moored

9.2.1 Taught moored Point absorbers reacting against the seabed

In Sweden and Australia, points-absorbers which exploit the movement relative to the seabed are explored — and where PTO is located on the seabed. The PTO of the Swedish absorbers is based on a submerged linear electrical generator, while the Australian uses a submerged hydraulic PTO. The Swedish float is placed in sea areas where there are no tides, while the Australian buoy is operated just under the surface of the ocean, in order not to be influenced by the tide. The DWP point absorber tested in scale 1:4 off Hanstholm provided performance data over a period of 6 months during 1995-96 [16]. A Norwegian point absorber, Bolt [w33], tested in Norway has the PTO on the surface.



Seabased 30 kW, Sweden [w33]



Ceto, 200 kW, Australia [w17]



Fred Olsen, Bolt 45 kW, Norway [w44]



DWP Point absorber, 1:4 Denmark

The advantage of these tight moored point absorber systems are that the costs of mooring are incorporated in the Power Take-off and the footprint of the mooring therefore relatively small. The challenge is to avoid the moorings be affected by snatch loads and end-stop loads which can be associated with the characteristics and limited stroke length of the PTO.

Resen Energy [w45] has received financial support for the test of a new tight moored principle "Lever Operated Pivoting Float" (LOPF), which is a principle developed in the United States that Resen has bought. The initial proof of concept has been carried out in the wave tank at Aalborg University.

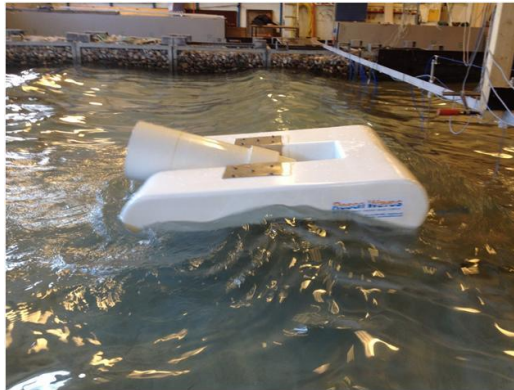


Figure 19 Lever Operated Pivoting Float, AAU 2012

Under the MaRINET programme Resen has applied to test a 2 kW unit in the deep water tank of ECN in Nantes in France. The test is expected to take place in autumn 2012, if EU authorization is given. *The challenge for this point absorber on the initial step – is to find reliable ways to transmit the electricity to the seabed.*

9.3 Offshore slack moored devices

9.3.1 Heaving Buoys

Point absorbers

A number of slack moored point absorbers shown in the figure below looks at the surface almost the same as the tight moored point absorbers (section 6.2.1.). However, the OPT PowerBuoy and the WaveBob takes advantage of the relative movement between a float and a submerged volume below sea level via a PTO.



OPT PowerBuoy, USA & UK (EMEC) [w24]

Wave Bob, Ireland [w13]

Figure 20 Slack moored point absorbers

Design of a mooring system with a small footprint and the development of a power-cable connection to the seabed, which can easily be detached when the system is due for maintenance, are challenges associated with this type of devices.

The use of linear hydraulic rams require that the hydraulic circuit is specially designed to deal with the typical unconventional high ram speeds required to obtain high point absorber efficiency. The typical lifetime of hydraulic seals is about 20000 km – which with an average travel of one meter per 8 seconds would be travelled in 5 years. The rams need some type of protection to prevent ingress of seawater that could rapidly lead to deterioration of the ram's surface and loss of function.

It appears that PTO systems based on hydraulics today, are not much more efficient compared to the PTO based on air turbines.



The slack-moored IPS Buoy developed and tested during the 1970s in Sweden was promoted as suitable test unit for off-shore devices as part of the OWEC-1 project [7].

During 2001-2007, the buoy was developed as AquaBuOY by AquaEnergy/Finavera USA/Canada. A prototype was built, installed and sank outside Oregon in 2007 – Finavera consequently stopped further development on the project and consequently focused on wind energy development.

A revised version of the IPS buoy has been built and tested by WAVES4POWER [w46] in 2010 in Sweden - 40 years after the first tests!

9.3.2 Contouring structures

These are structures floating horizontally on the surface of the sea, consisting of two or more structures able to move relative to each other, such as a hinged raft and the power is extracted from this relative motions by a PTO.

For the period 2. July 2009 to August 2012, **DEXAWAVE** [w40] has received limited permission to establish a 6 meter wide and 13 meter long test-unit on 25 meter deep water at Hanstholm in Denmark

Dexawave is a slack-moored floating offshore converter and the test unit consists of pontoons interconnected by flexible joints and the motion between the pontoons activates a hydraulic Power take-off system of 5 kW.



Figure 21 Dexa Wave being towed in place at DanWEC Hanstholm

DEXAWAVE is preparing the building of a larger unit of 250 kW. A small demonstration model in scale approx. 1:10 was transported to Malta in 2011 and DEXAWAVE has installed a wave-rider buoy to monitor the wave conditions and evaluate the business opportunity Blue Ocean Energy ®. *The small scale DEXA experiment at the exposed location at Hanstholm showed that a revised mooring design was required and this is presently being tested.*

CrestWing [w47] developed by Waveenergyfyn is based on a similar principle as Dexa and holds a permission to test a prototype at benign site up to July 2012. The 400 kg prototype is 2.44 meter wide and 10 meter long. The converter consists of two pontoons hinged together, anchored from the front pontoon to the seabed. The relative movement between the two pontoons drives a mechanical PTO.



Figure 22 CrestWing Frederikshavn, September 2011

The Crestwing demonstrated survivability at the benign test site, and the challenge is related to up-scaling the mechanical PTO.

Pelamis-Wave Power, Pelamis [w2] is this year (2012) celebrating its 14th birthday and Richard Yemm, inventor and initiator of the project, writes on Pelamis home page:

"It's unbelievable how much Pelamis has achieved over the past fourteen years. When we started wave energy was an academic curiosity, and now we are an important part of Scottish and UK Government strategy, have real machines generating into the grid, and utility customers developing real wave farms off our shores. From the first small tank test model in 1998 we have now designed, built and tested six full-scale machines and through that amassed a vast pool of knowledge and experience that gives us unrivalled insight into what we need to do next to deliver commercial wave farms in the next few years. It has been a tough but rewarding 14 years since our inception, and there is more than a tingle of excitement if I allow myself to think where we may be in another 14 years' time!"

In March 2012, it was announced that Vattenfall signed up to take the last berth at EMEC in order to test a Pelamis machine in Orkney from 2014. "We are working with Vattenfall on a joint venture called Aegir Wave Power", initially developing a 10MW wave farm off the coast of Shetland. Vattenfall also confirmed their intention to order a single Pelamis machine later this year, depending on the progress of the Aegir project.

Pelamis inventor and founder Richard Yemm was awarded the prestigious Saltire Prize Award Medal by the Scottish Government, which recognizes outstanding contributions by individuals and groups to the development of marine power generation. (Pelamis newsletter 2012-04-13)



Figure 23 Pelamis 2 During towing towards EMEC test site.

The challenge facing Pelamis, as the most obvious candidate for further full scale demonstration, is not only to survive the forces of the sea, generating power, reliability and maintainability – but also being able to deal with the pressure from all sides who want to see fast results.

9.3.3 Overtopping and inflow systems

Wave Dragon [w36] has been tested in Nissum Bredning since 2003 and the plant's electricity generation license runs to 30. June 2012. The ice winter 2010 did, however, give a reason to end the tests, as shown in the below photo.



Figure 24 Wave Dragon on ice

Wave Dragon uses the overtopping principle, where waves wash up in a reservoir above sea-level and water is discharged through a series of low head water turbines operating generators producing electricity. The plant tested had an installed power of 20 kW and a weight of 237 tons. The prototype plant was 58 meters wide, 33 meters long with a draught of 3.6 meters.

Wave Dragon has submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment and application for consent to install a pre-commercial demonstrator off the coast of Milford Haven, Wales.

In 2011, Wave Dragon received support from the Danish funding agency EUDP to prepare a certified design of a full-scale 1.5 MW demonstration unit to the wave conditions at the test site DanWEC, Hanstholm. Furthermore, Wave Dragon participated in EU projects such as Wave-Net, CA-OE, WavePlam, Equimar, Wavetrain I and II (and have presently still onewave-trainees employed).

The challenge facing the Wave Dragon is the design of a reliable mooring system and the power cable connecting from the device to the seabed.

WavePlane A/S [w37] had since October 2008 permit for their facilities at Hanstholm. The machine is a floating V-shaped design, with the stern against the incoming waves. The waves rolls into funnels over an "artificial beach", and the water is set in a rotating motion exhausted through turbines on each side generating electricity. Establishment permit expired in august 2009, and the plant is currently not in the test at sea.

The unique feature of the Waveplane is its ability to stay calm in the waves, as they pass over and into the structure. This requires a careful design, which had been proven in smaller scales. This feature could significantly reduce the loadings on the mooring system.

One of the challenges for WavePlane is to cost effectively to convert the low head flow of seawater into electricity.



9.3.4 Floating OWC



Figure 25 OE Buoy, 20 kW, Ireland [w14]

In Ireland, Ocean Energy is developing the OE Buoy. The buoy has been tested in scale 1:4 at the Irish test site in Donagal bay. The principle is a floating OWC invented in Japan known under the name of BBDB. This BBDB principle on DHI was tested during the Danish Wave Program of under the name Swan DK3 and ongoing experiments are taking place at Saga University in Japan with variation of the concept. The backward bended column of water extending under the hull activates the air driving an air turbine. Ocean Energy Limited has in 2012 landed a deal to grid-connect its first full-scale device at Wave Hub [w48].

The challenge facing the OE-Buoy is the development of a reliable and affordable mooring system that will not influence the pitching motion of the device.

Leancon [w49] received permission to establish an experimental scale model at Nissum Bredning at a location approximately 200 m from the beach and approximately 500 m from Nissum Bredning test site.



Figure 26 Leancon multi OWC system

The prototype is a scale 1:10 model of a floating multi OWC-installations. The model has a weight of about 2 tons, manufactured in glass fiber. It is 24 meters wide and 11 meters long. Top of the structure is about 1 m above the waterline. The model will be equipped with air turbine, generator and measuring equipment sufficient to evaluate the performance and structural loads.

The challenge facing Leancon is how to complete such a large project single handed within a reasonable time – the building and preparing of the large prototype is carried out as a one-man project, down to the smallest details – it is indeed a challenge.

AWS Ocean Energy UK, The AWS [w50] system brings back memories of the device known as the Coventry Clam developed by Norman Bellamy during the UK wave energy programme in the 70s [w51, w52].



Figure 27 The circular AWS flexible bag system

The AWS device is a multi-cell array of flexible membrane absorbers which convert wave power to pneumatic power through compression of air within each cell. The cells are inter-connected, thus allowing interchange of air between cells in anti-phase. Turbine-generators convert the pneumatic power to electricity.

In full scale, a 2.5MW device will be slack moored in water depths of around 100m using standard mooring spreads, it will comprise 12 cells, each measuring around 16m wide by 8m deep, arranged around a circular 1300 tonne structure with a diameter of 60m.

Following tests with a 1:9 scale model in 2010, AWS is now working towards a full-scale 2.5 MW prototype of the AWS – III. In June 2011, Alstom broadened its marine energy portfolio by taking a 40% stake of the Scottish company AWS Ocean Energy.

The challenge related to this AWS technology is to demonstrate the reliability and durability of the flexible membranes in order to avoid leakage.

WEPTOS [w53] converter is under development in Denmark and was initially tested in September 2011 in the Spanish test facility "Cantabria Coastal and Ocean Basin" (CCOB) [w54].



Figure 28 Weptos being tested in Spain September 2011

(Photo:courtesy of Weptos)

The floating wave energy converter is able to regulate the angle of the V-shaped construction, and thus reduce the impact and power absorption during rough weather conditions. Along each of the two arms are a series of 20 floats with a geometry known as "Salter's Duck", which draws on a mechanical PTO driving a common axle that via gears drives the generators located in the stern of the machine.

The model weighs approximately 1 ton approximately 12 meters wide against the wave front and each arm has a length of 7.5 metres.

There is a challenge in the design of the mooring system and stern hinge design.

9.4 Combined solutions:

In 2007, [Floating Power Plant](#) received deployment and generation permission to test Poseidon 37 at the benign test site at Vindeby until 31. March 2012.

Poseidon 37 was installed in autumn 2008 and it is a floating offshore wave power plant including three smaller wind turbines. The structure is 37 meters wide with a length of 25 meters and depth 3.5 meters. The plant is anchored to the seabed with a power cable connection to the outermost western wind mill in Vindeby sea-wind park. So far, only the power from the wind mills are transmitted.

Floating Power Plant has established cooperation with Bridgeworks Capital in Oregon and created the company Floating power Inc. in the United States to commercialize Poseidon's Wave/Wind energy platform.



Figure 29 Floating Power Plant [w39]

The challenge for the FFP plant is to develop more effective PTO system to define the ocean sites suitable for stable production of the combined power production of wind and wave.



Figure 30 WINFLO [w55] floating off-shore moored platforms without wave energy will be considerably more expensive compared to windmills placed on shallow water monopoles, such concepts are studied by Ifremer.

9.5 Common challenges for selected Wave Energy technologies

As part of the Danish Industrial Partnership project [17] and as derived from the ETI Study in the UKREC [6], a number of common technological challenges for wave power conversion have been identified.

In the order of importance, these areas are:

- further develop the mooring systems
- further develop PTO systems
- further develop electrical transmission from floating structure to the sea-bed
- materials and components

Moorings

Development of new mooring methods that with increased security and lifetime can be established at reduced costs compared to conventional mooring systems. This should include consideration to device size, extension to arrays, motions, power absorption and how the device can sway around the mooring.

PTO power electronics

A WEC typically includes smaller generators (less than 1 MW) and a challenge is to find the most cost effective way and most appropriate power technology in order to interconnect the generators of the WEC (AC/DC to AC converter on the WEC) and of a "farm" of WECs to a transformer station. This development would include the assessment of efficiency, price, maintenance etc.

Power cable connection

The development and testing of a flexible electrical cable connection, which can be used to connect a floating WEC, e.g. in such a way that it can turn around its mooring point to a fixed point on the seabed. It is a challenge closely associated with the mooring method, the plant size, water depth, bottom conditions and met-ocean conditions.

Material and components

There is recognition of the need to develop and test new materials and components on prototypes, in order to reduce costs and gain experiences regarding durability, anti-fouling problems, corrosion etc. from the testing. Sharing such experience can help accelerate the development.

10 The industry, subcontracting industry and universities

There is a big industrial base of companies that possess competences relevant for development of wave energy – basically from the off-shore industry – but also from the wind energy industry.

The process from R&D toward the market and operation involves a process in which many types of companies and industries will be involved as shown on the illustration below.

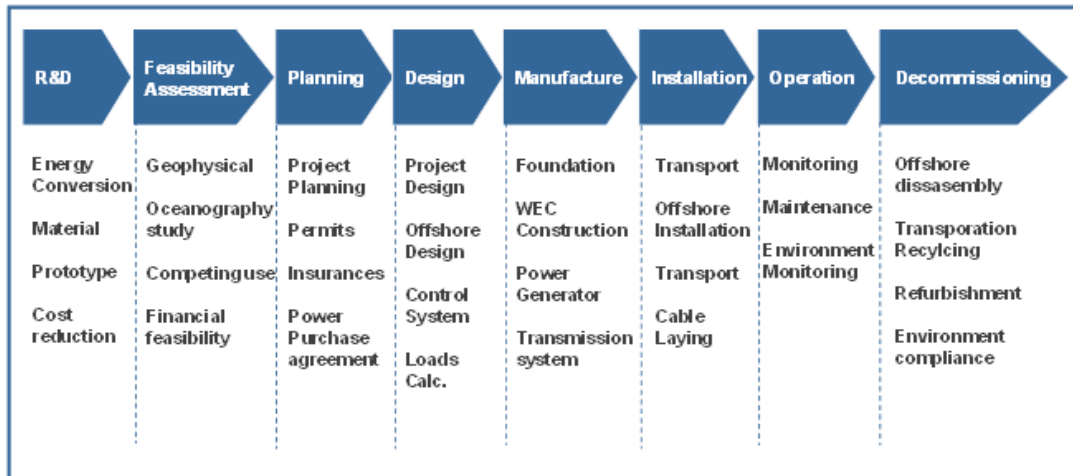


Figure 31 Typical competences required in the development of ocean energy (courtesy of Wavestar)

In the table below with examples of companies and industry within Europe associated with wave and tidal energy that can be found from, the published, UKERC ENERGY RESEARCH LANDSCAPE: MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGY [15], companies listed the Westwave project [w15], the Danish Industrial Partnership project [17] and companies mentioned on the feedback from developers, utilities and Universities. The list below is by no mean complete and can be updated i.e. by membership organizations such as the EU-OEA, from participant lists from conferences etc.

Wave Energy Technology	Industry and equipment	University with test facility
Aquamarine Ltd	ABB	Aalborg University
AWS Ocean Energy	Bam Contractors	Ecole Centrale de Nantes
CrestWing WaveEnergyFyn	Bosh Rexroth	HMRC/University College Cork
DexaWave	BPP Tech	Imperial College
Floating Power Plant	Fred Olsen Ltd	Lancaster University
Floating Power Plant	Harland and Wolff	NTNU
Leancon Wave Energy	Herbosch Kiere	Queen's University, Belfast.
Manchester Bobber	Isleburn	TU Delft
Ocean Energy Ltd	IT Power	University of Edinburgh
OPT	Kymaner Lda.	University of Manchester
Orecon	LotusWorks	University of Newcastle
PelamisWave Power	Norvento Enerxia	University of Southampton
Resen Energi	Oceaneering International	University of Strathclyde
Rolling cylinder	QinetiQ	
Trident Energy	Rolls Royce Plc (Marine)	Universities
Wave Dragon	Saipem SA	COVENTRY
WAVEnergy AS	Seacore Ltd	Exeter University
Wavegen	Techworks Marine	Fraunhofer IWES
WavePiston	Tension Technology International	Heriot Watt University
WavePlane	TONNenergy	Inst Tecnológico de Canarias
Wavestar	Voith-siemens	Instituto Superior Técnico

Weptos	Kössler	NUI Maynooth
Ceto	Consultants Engineering	Robert Gordon University
Bolt	Areva	Second University of Naples
Seabased	Artemis Intelligent Power Ltd	Swansea University
	Atkins	UCDublin
Tidal Energy Technology	Black & Veatch	UCL CIVIL
Ecopraxis	Cummins Generation	University of Bath
Lunar Energy	Ecofys	University of Bristol
Marine Current Turbines	Edinburgh Designs Ltd	University of Durham
Open Hydro	Engineering Business	University of Nottingham
Scot Renewables	Garrad Hassan	University of Oxford
SMD Hydrovision	Halcrow	University of Plymouth
Swan Turbines	Innovayt	University of Sheffield
Teamwork Technology	Martek Limited	University of Southampton
Tidal Generation	Mojo Maritime	Technical University Munich
	Rambøll	Technical University Warsaw
	SPOK APS	
Utilities	Certification	Network organisations
Alstom	DNV	AOEA
DONG Energy Power A/S	German Lloyd	RenewableUK
E.ON		Bølgekraftforeningen
E.ON	Legal matter	Donegal County Development
EDF Energy	Philip Lee Solicitors	Esbjerg Erhvervsudvikling
EDP Inovação	Sandroos, advokatfirma	EU-OEA
Ente Vasco de la Energia		Green-Ofshore Alliancen
ESB International		Hanstholm Havneforum
Fortum		IEA Ocean Energy Group
Guernsey Electricity		IMERC
Hydro Tasmania		LORC
Iberdrola		MEER
Npower renewables		MRIA
Scottish renewables		Renewable Energy Association
Scottish and Southern Energy		West Wave
SSE Renewables		
Vattenfall		
Test tanks facilities	Test sites at sea	Technological institutes
HR Wallingford Ltd	Bimep	DHI
Ifremer	DanWEC	INETI
	EMEC	Marine Institute
	NaREC (Test Facilities)	NUIG Ryan Institute
	Nissum Bredning	TECNALIA-RBTK
	Sem REV	
	WAVEHUB	
Public organisations		Financial firms and banks
Carbon Trust		One51
DTI		Pershing International Nominees
Energinet.dk		Scottish Enterprise Seed Fund
Western Development Comm		Sigma Capital
		Triodos Bank
		Vækstfonden

11 International market trends within the Ocean Energy

11.1 The technology trends

The general market trends within ocean energy i.e. wave and tidal appear to be as follows:

Today, the UK has leased sites of about 1 GW power projected to be 40 GW by 2050. This represents a substantial market of thousands of devices constructed in waters around the UK and elsewhere.

The international market for tidal stream energy is developing faster compared to wave energy, most likely because the tidal structures can be located at sites not too exposed to extreme wave conditions with a good resource – and in this way they are more directly related to the technologies used in offshore wind today.

The rapid development of tidal stream technology is demonstrated by the many promising device types at prototype stage operating at the EMEC test site [w9] such as:

1. Open Hydro 250kW Open Centred tidal turbine deployed
2. Open Hydro – 600kW turbine deployed (not grid connected)
3. Tidal Generation Ltd 500kW tidal turbine deployed
4. Atlantis Resources Corporation AR1000 1 MW tidal turbine deployed
5. Scotrenewables SR250 floating tidal turbine deployed
6. Hammerfest Strom 1MW tidal turbine deployed
7. Voith Hydro tidal turbine

In addition, there is the 1,2 MW Seagen located in Northern Ireland [w9].

Concerning wave energy, the UK sites for about 600 MW has been leased and the WECs currently being tested at EMEC are:

1. Pelamis P2 750 kW Machine (Eon)
2. Pelamis P2 750 kW Machine (Scottish Power Renewables)
3. Aquamarine Power Limited – Oyster 800 Stage 1
4. Wello Oy Penguin 500 kW wave converter

Based on the successful completion of these EMEC tests, the WECs will be tested further in arrays to be deployed at the Wavehub site in southern UK.

11.2 Implementing Agreement on Ocean Energy Systems (OES)

The international trends within ocean energy development is best followed on the home page for the Implementing Agreement on Ocean Energy Systems [w56] initiated by Portugal, Denmark and the UK in 2001.

As of December 2011, 19 countries are members of the OES: Portugal, Denmark, United Kingdom, Japan, Ireland, Canada, the United States of America, Belgium, Germany, Norway, Mexico, Spain, Italy, New Zealand, Sweden, Australia, Republic of Korea, South Africa and China.

The annual reports produced by the OEC and their website are informative and up to date.

Trends within ocean energy can be monitored at dedicated conferences such as:

- European Wave and Tidal Energy Conference (EWTEC)
- International Conference on Ocean Energy (ICOE)
- 4th Global Marine Renewable Energy Conference (GMREC)

These conferences tend to get bigger and bigger.

11.3 Maritime Spatial Planning

In the annual report from the OES 2011, [w6] there is an interesting article on the need for Maritime Spatial Planning and the conclusions are referred below:

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) will have significant implications for the development of marine renewable generally, and the ocean energy sector in particular. Economic development and marine environmental protection have an equal weighting in the EU's Integrated Maritime Policy and both elements are either already specifically addressed in legislation or will be in the near future. This means that it is essential for the ocean energy industry to engage fully in the Maritime Spatial Planning process to ensure that conflicts are minimised and that the industry can progress in a sustainable manner. From an industry perspective, it is essential that research is undertaken to understand the extent to which ocean energy developments can be deployed and co-located with other users of the sea. This could help lessen the need for 'exclusion zones' within MSP systems.

As a key player in the advancement of ocean energy, the Ocean Energy Systems Implementing Agreement (OES) is in a unique position to encourage device and project developers to involve themselves in the debates and processes surrounding development of Maritime Spatial Planning systems in different jurisdictions. The European Commission recognized that stakeholder participation will significantly raise the quality of MSP. Developers already have a wealth of tacit knowledge from their experiences of deploying devices. They know what has worked well and where. This type of knowledge will help inform the creation of an MSP system that is both fully reflective of the needs of the industry and will also enlighten other industries as to the specific requirements of the ocean energy sector. The OES should promote this active involvement of the sector, as it is an essential criterion for progress and acceptance of MSP.

11.4 Standards under IEC TC 114

On the technical side, standards on ocean energy are being prepared under the IEC TC 114 [w57] including so far:

IEC TC 114 Reference	Title
PT 62600-1	<i>Terminology.</i>
PT 62600-2	<i>Design requirements for marine energy systems.</i>
PT 62600-10	<i>Assessment of mooring system for marine energy converters.</i>
PT 62600-100	<i>Power performance assessment of electricity producing wave energy converters.</i>
PT 62600-101	<i>Wave energy resource assessment and characterization.</i>
PT 62600-200	<i>Power performance assessment of electricity producing tidal energy converters</i>
PT 62600-201	<i>Tidal energy resource assessment and characterization.</i>
PT 62600-102	<i>Wave Energy Converter Power Performance Assessment at a Second Location Using Measured Assessment Data.</i>

11.5 Certification of Tidal and Wave Energy Converters

DNV has a risk-based certification process for tidal and wave energy converters. This process is defined in their OSS-312 Certification of Tidal and Wave Energy Converters. The OSS-312 informs a generic list of documents and defines the extent of the scope of certification. The certification is not only related to safety and environment, but to functional requirements that are of key importance for the success of marine renewables.

The certification process is a gradual process that evolves at the same level as the technology evolves. This is reflected on the different certification deliverables, as part of the initial steps of the certification process and its function of the results from the technology assessment and failure mode identification and risk ranking; i.e. it is a direct function of the criticality and associated risks to the success of the technology.

11.6 The EERA initiative

One of the aims of the EERA Ocean Energy Joint Program [w58] is to promote the incorporation of ocean energy into the SET-plan. The EERA Ocean Energy JP will also provide a coordinated voice towards the European Commission and the member states on medium to long term research priorities that are required in order to bring the sector to successful commercial deployment levels.

The EERA Ocean Energy JP is based around six key research themes. These themes have been developed based on existing research roadmaps which identify the critical areas of research required for the successful growth of the industry.

The research themes are:

- Resource
- Devices and Technology
- Deployment and Operations
- Environmental Impact
- Socio-economic Impact
- Research Infrastructure, Education and Training

Within each research theme, a number of sub-topics have been identified as key long term research objectives.

Initial EERA Ocean Energy JP activities are not able to cover all of the objectives identified but have been prioritized in the first year's program by need and the current availability of funding. The gap between, what has been identified as a key long term objective, and what the EERA Ocean Energy JP is actually able to deliver in the first year, will help identify issues that need future funding and coordinated research efforts.

A key objective of the joint EERA program is to address the medium to long term research challenges that the sector has identified in a variety of ocean energy roadmaps such as the European Ocean Energy Association's Oceans of Energy Roadmap (2010) [], the UK DECC Marine Action Plan (2010) [w59], the Scottish FREDS Marine Energy Roadmap (2009) [w60], the UKERC/ETI Marine Energy Technology Roadmap (2010) [w61] and the UKERC Marine Renewable Energy Technology Roadmap (2008) [w62]. The challenges identified in these roadmaps are strongly reflected in the six key EERA ocean energy research themes.

Members of the EERA as of March 2012 are: Germany, Italy, UK, Ireland, France, Spain, Portugal, Norway and Denmark is in the process of joining.

11.7 European projects on Ocean Energy

[WavePlam \(2007-2009\)](#) [w63] - The purpose of the WAVE Energy PLAnning and Marketing project is to develop tools, establish methods and standards, and create conditions to speed up introduction of ocean energy onto the European renewable energy market.

[EQUIMAR](#) (2008-2011) [w3] - "Equitable Testing and Evaluation of Marine Energy Extraction Devices in terms of Performance, Cost and Environmental Impact", EU 7FP funded (STREP programme).

SOWFIA (2010-2012) [w64] - "Streamlining of Ocean Wave Farms Impact Assessment" aims to facilitate the development of European wide, coordinated, unified and streamlined environmental and socio-economic Impact Assessment (IA) tools for offshore wave energy conversion developments. Wave farm demonstration projects will be studied in each of the collaborating EU nations.

FAME (2010-2012) [w65] - "The Future of the Atlantic Marine Environment" - financed by the EC INTERREG IV programme, with the aim to link the protection of natural values, specifically biodiversity (avifauna) with economic activities at the European Atlantic Ocean.

Aqua-RET2 (2009-2011) [w66] - "Dissemination activities and transfer of technology in the ocean energy sector" (EU - Leonardo da Vinci - Lifelong Learning Programme).

ORECCA (2009-2011) [w67] - The goals of the ORECCA project (Off-shore Renewable Energy Conversion Platforms – Coordination Action) are to create a framework for knowledge sharing and to develop a roadmap for research activities in the context of offshore renewable energy that are a relatively new and challenging field of interest.

CORES (2008-2011) [w68] - "Components for Renewable Ocean Energy Systems". EU 7FP funded (RTD programme). This project concentrated on the development of a toolbox of the wave to wire simulations to be applied to the OE Buoy Technology, developed by the Irish company Ocean Energy Ltd.

WAVEPORT (2009-2012) [w69] - "Demonstration & Deployment of a Commercial Scale Wave Energy Converter with an Innovative Real Time Wave by Wave Tuning

System" (EU FP7 programme), with the aim to demonstrate a large scale grid connected, 600kW peak rated, Powerbuoy Technology.

SURGE (2009-2011) [w70] - The European Project SURGE (Simple Underwater Renewable Generation of Electricity) is funded by the EC under FP7 and intends to test and assess the second generation of the Finnish WaveRoller device, near Peniche. After testing the prototype WaveRoller1 at full-scale at the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC), in Scotland and in Portugal, AW-Energy, owner of the technology, will install and test its second prototype in Portuguese waters.

MaRINET (2011-2015) [w71] - The aim of this project is to coordinate research and development at all scales (small models through to prototype scales from Laboratory through to Open Sea tests) and to allow access for researchers and developers into facilities, which are not universally available in Europe.

TROPOS (2011-2015) [w72] - "Modular Multi-use Deep Water Offshore Platform for Harnessing and Servicing Mediterranean, Subtropical and Tropical Marine and Maritime Resources". The aim is to develop a floating modular multi-use platform system for use in deep waters.

MARINA (2010 - 2014) [w73] the MARINA Platform project will establish a set of equitable and transparent criteria for the evaluation of multi-purpose platforms for marine renewable energy (MRE).

H2OCEAN (2012 - 2014) [w71] H2OCEAN is a project aimed at developing an innovative design for an economically and environmentally sustainable multi-use open-sea platform. Wind and wave power will be harvested and part of the energy will be used for multiple applications on-site, including the conversion of energy into hydrogen that can be stored and shipped to shore as green energy carrier and a multi-trophic aquaculture farm.

MERMAID (2012 - 2015) [w72] Innovative Multi-purpose off-shore platforms: planning, Design and operation. Marine structures for offshore wind farms and aquaculture have to be installed at various sites and on much larger scale than earlier implementation of offshore structures in order to fulfil EU strategies (1) for reduction of fossil-based energy and (2) to become a major player in sustainable aquaculture. However the feasibility is much more sensitive to the costs of structures and the installation of the structures than for instance Oil & Gas facilities.

Both for offshore renewables and for aquaculture a substantial part of the costs is variable cost related to operations and maintenance of the plants. It is obvious that optimization of the use of ocean space for different purposes might benefit from shared resources such as staff allocation, transportation of staff and material from and to the platforms, use of forecasting systems, ships etc.

12 Selected examples of cooperation and synergies

Future development of the ocean energy sector will be linked with developments in other sectors, such as offshore wind energy, exploiting positive synergies in technology developments (e.g. components), infrastructure, supply chain and policies.

There will be significant opportunities for co-location of technologies; for example, ocean energy and offshore wind energy, utilizing common platforms or wave/wave or wind/tidal hybrid systems. Mutual learning processes, shared infrastructure and innovations from a shared supply chain will be of great benefit to the future expansion of both the ocean energy sector and related sectors

12.1 European Wavetrain 2 Project

01.01.2009 – 30.06.2012

The first example of synergies between different actors being mobilized within the Ocean Energy industry is the Wavetrain program. Over the last decade, the Wavetrain program co-ordinated by the Wave Energy Centre in Portugal has been successful in bringing different companies together and integrate graduate students into the research and development sphere of Ocean Energy.

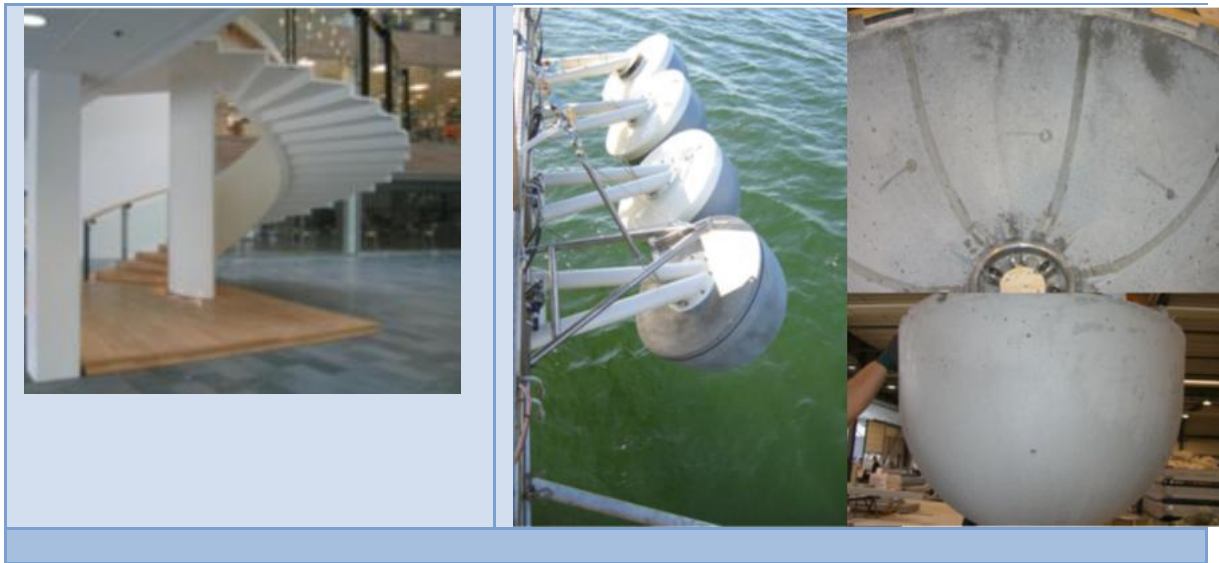
The Wavetrain2 project is a multinational Initial Training Network (ITN) funded under the FP7-People program, in order to face the wide range of challenges that industrial-scale wave energy implementation faces in the near future, focusing on technical issues, from hydrodynamic and PTO (Power Take-Off) design, to instrumentation issues and energy storage and cost reduction which are critical for successful deployment. On the other hand, also non-technical “barriers”, typically less tangible difficulties related to legal issues (licensing, conflicts of use, EIA procedures, grid connection, regional differences) and the non-sufficient representation of socio-economic benefits of the sector, is dealt with, as they are seen as a major obstacle for fast implementation on a European scale. The network consists of 13 European partner institutions and 17 associated entities, from research units and device developers to project developers and consultants.



Figure 32 Wavetrain2 fellows <http://www.wavetrain2.eu>

12.2 Float 2 Case story:

Hi-Con, Wavestar and Aalborg University



The Float project was initiated by the developers of Wavestar, Dexawave and Hi-Con a company that works almost exclusively with High Performance Fibre Reinforced Concrete in order to test a new concept of wave energy floaters, made of Ultra High Performance Fibre Reinforced Concrete.

The preliminary proof-of-concept study carried out during 2011 headed by Hi-Con including Aalborg University and Wavestar and Dexawave and the conclusions of the preliminary study confirmed the possibility of significantly reducing costs for the for the WS converter through application of UHPC. However, the study also demonstrated that for the DexaWave converter, the UHPC did not prove as a viable option for their cylindrical floaters.

The focus of the FLOAT2 project which started 2012 is to utilize the synergies and demonstrate a new concept for wave energy floaters, made of Ultra High Performance Fibre Reinforced Concrete (UHPC) on the floaters for Wavestar as an enabling technology for more competitive wave energy production.



Figure 33 Wavestar investigates floaters of UHPC [w73]

13 Information exchange

The request for information has been send to the organisations indicated in the table below and the response and information received has been helpful and is greatly appreciated.

Company	Contact	Question guide send	Information received	Interview
Danish developers:				
Wavestarenergy	Laurent Marquis	2012-03-09	2012-03-16	2012-03-16
FPP	Anders Krøhler	2012-03-09		
DEXA	Lars Elbæk	2012-03-09	2012-03-12	
Wave Dragon	Erik Friis-Madsen	2012-03-09	2012-03-30	
Crestwing	Henning Pilgaard	2012-03-09	2012-03-12	
Leancon	Kurt D Rasmussen	2012-03-09	2012-03-14	2012-03-14
Weptos	Tommy Larsen	2012-03-09	mail	
Wave Piston	Martin von Bülow	2012-03-09	2012-03-13	2012-03-13
Roling cylinder	Inventua Aps Lars Ingerslev	2012-03-09		
Developers abroad:				
Pelamis Wave	Richard Yemm, Chris Retzler	2012-03-12		2012-04-26
Oyster, Aquamarin	Charlotte Taylor	2012-03-27		
Seabased	Mats Leon	2012-03-12		
Wavebob	Jochem Weber	2012-03-12		
OE-bouy	Mike Whelan	2012-03-12		
AWS	Simon Gray	2012-03-12		
Bolt	Tore Gulli	2012-03-12		2012-03-20
CETO	Greg Allan	2012-03-29	2012-03-31	
WaveGen	Tom Heath	2012-03-27	2012-04-27	
Universities				
AAU,	Peter Frigaard, Jens Peter Kofoed	2012-03-09	2012-04-	
ECN	Alain Clement Aurélien Babarit	2012-03-09	2012-03-14	2012-03-14
ITS,	Antonio Sarmento	2012-03-09	2012-03-12	
UCC HMRC,	Gareth Thomas Brian Holmes Tony Lewis	2012-03-09	2012-04-06	2012-04-06
UEDIN,	Stephen Salter	2012-03-09	2012-04-11	2012-04-26
Queens	Trevor and Cuan	2012-03-09		
NTNU	Jorgen Hals Torgeir Moan	2012-03-27		
Utilities				
Vattenfall;	Per Holmberg Bjorn Bolund	2012-03-09	2012-03-21	
DONG,	Jon Vindahl Kringelum	2012-03-09	2012-03-21	2012-03-22
ESBI		2012-03-28	2012-03-12	
E-on,	David Futter	2012-03-27		
Scottich renewable,	Johanna Yates			
DNV	Claudio Bittencourt	2012-03-28	2012-04-09	

12.1 Utilities

DONG Energy represented by Jon Vindahl Kringelum, ESB Ireland represented by James Tedd and Vattenfall Per Holmberg and Bjorn Bolund have responded to our questionnaires, and their responds to each question is summarized below.

HOW IS THE SCREENING OF THE OCEAN ENERGY MARKET DONE?

DONG Energy is following the development of Ocean Energy, including available support regimes within their geographical focus area (NW-Europe). DONG Energy is especially interested in technologies that have synergies with Offshore Wind and is only focusing on wave currently.

In that respect DONG Energy is looking at available wave resource near their existing and future wind projects and the available resources in general.

On the technical side DONG Energy do screening of wave concepts internally, but not with any fixed frequency.

ESB has used a dedicated technical evaluation process (See WestWave Supply Chain Appendix 2 at http://www.westwave.ie/contact_us/) to determine a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) for each technology.

A hurdle of TRL8, which requires at least a single prototype of the machine to have been deployed and operated, has been set as the maturity required to be a candidate technology for WestWave the early array project ESB are leading.

ESB have also provided technical support to technologies at TRL 5-7 through support on Safety, Power Quality, Electrical Engineering etc.

Vattenfall has since 2006 screened the ocean energy technology options in terms of technical readiness. Vattenfall's strategy is to engage with those technologies that are approaching readiness for wave farm deployment, and fit their business requirements. The level of engagement increases with readiness.

Early stage technologies (TRL4-5) are continuously monitored by Vattenfall using various means such as conferences, relevant newsletters and home pages. For those technologies that are more mature, Vattenfall (TRL5-6) have also regularly been in direct contact with the technology developers to receive and review their material. As the developers approach readiness (TRL6-7) Vattenfall requests specific technical information based on their template to evaluate technically. Once Vattenfall have decided that a technology will likely become viable they contract the firm to allow technical due diligence and propose projects. This has happened with one company. Vattenfall also has close contact with other stake holders such as authorities and trade organizations mainly in UK but also in the rest of Europe.

WHAT TYPE OF CONCEPTS RECEIVES SUPPORT AND WHY?

DONG Energy has partnership agreements with 2 Danish concepts, but are not providing any financial or investment support.

1. Floating Power Plant, where Dong Energy is supplying infrastructure for connection to their Vindeby Wind Farm
2. Wave Star, where the company has an R&D partnership agreement

ESB work closest together with the companies who have developed their concepts closest to commercialization.

Vattenfall decided at an early stage to focus on deep water wave devices as they judged the potential to be large and the consenting process easier (i.e. scalability). As a utility Vattenfall is a procurer and operator, i.e. not developer, of technology and therefore mainly interested in wave power converters in advanced stages of development. As of now Vattenfall is collaborating closely with Pelamis Ltd. that in their judgment has a sound technology as well as being the most mature concept from a development perspective. Vattenfall is also following the development of a number of deep water concepts that are promising.

REQUIREMENTS FOR VALIDATION/DEMONSTRATION SCALE?

DONG Energy is in general open to participate in demonstration projects, however at the moment they are focused on their 2 existing partnerships. Demonstration at their existing sites requires a track-record of prior successful offshore testing and a very high level of safety, both regarding personnel and the device itself.

ESB: There is a need for public funding to bring technologies through to a stage where utilities such as ESB can be involved. This includes all the stages up to TRL 8, and at that stage grant and tariff support is required.

Vattenfall uses a Technology Readiness Scale (TRL) with 9 levels (from idea=1 to commercial readiness=9). Preferably Vattenfall would like to see concepts proven in full scale in operational conditions (TRL 8) but acknowledging the immaturity of the sector the company takes active interest at an earlier stage. Generally Vattenfall's minimum requirement is for the concept to have been proven in the sea in, say 1:10 to quarter scale, with power generation (TRL 6-7). Vattenfall also expect the development to have followed the preceding steps with e.g. validation of hydrodynamic performance through both tank tests and numerical modeling.

PROSPECTS OF INCLUDING OCEAN ENERGY IN YOUR BUSINESS PLAN

DONG Energy: Wave Energy is currently not a part of DONG Energy's business plans. To achieve that, Devices developers have to prove a long continuous period of energy production offshore without major failures or unavailability. Also there must be a proven and documented prospect of driving down the Cost of Energy to a competitive level.

ESB has an Ocean Energy Team with the target to develop the capability to deliver Utility Scale Ocean Energy Projects. In the short term ESB is leading the WestWave project to deliver Ireland's first grid connected 5 MW wave energy array.

Vattenfall already has an ocean energy business plan, since 2006, as part of its R&D Projects portfolio. If the development can fulfill Vattenfall's requirements on technical and economic performance Vattenfall expect wave power to be a future part of Vattenfall's renewable energy portfolio.

WHAT PERCENTAGE OF FUTURE ENERGY PRODUCTION WILL COME FROM OCEAN ENERGY?

DONG Energy: This is not possible to say at the moment.

ESBI: There is great potential on the western seaboard of Europe for generation from Ocean Energy. There have been numerous studies on this which would be the best references to use.

Vattenfall's ocean energy business plan models 1000MW and 500MW deployment scenarios by 2030. The achievement of these scenarios is entirely dependent on development of the technology and market enablers. We cannot predict the installed capacity beyond 2030. Vattenfall's overall electricity production is currently in the order of 180TWh.

12.2 Universities

This section includes the response to our questionnaires from António Sarmiento IST in Portugal, Alain Clement and Aurélien Babarit at Ecole Centrale de Nantes (ECN) in France, Garreth Thommas at University College Cork (UCC) Ireland, Peter Frigaard at Aalborg University (AAU) in Denmark and David Forehand at University of Edinburgh (UEDIN)

WHAT THEORETICAL AND NUMERICAL TOOLS ARE USED TO MODEL THE POWER PRODUCTION FROM WAVE POWER DEVICES?

IST: The state-of-the-art are time-domain models based in the linear theory to estimate the forces due to wave-structure interactions. However these models use non-linear sub-models to simulate the performance of the electromechanical power take-off equipment and the control laws. Most often the mooring forces are also treated linearly (quasi-static). In the most advanced state-of-the-art models the impulse response functions needed to include the memory effects of the wave-structure interactions are replaced by state-space approaches. Non-linear hydrodynamic models for the wave-structure interactions exist but are no standard (and require much more simulation time). Overtopping devices are typically more difficult to model as the overtopping is a high non-linear approach, which is simulated by empirical formulae.

ECN: It depends on the desired level of accuracy:

1. To make a quick and dirty estimate of the power absorption of a particular WEC, we will make use of the typical Capture Width Ratio (CWR) for the category into which falls the WEC. Basically, we will identify the working principle of the WEC, will look in the table in [Babarit and Hals, 2011] and based on the characteristic length or width of the device, we will calculate the power.
2. A more refined approach will be to develop a numerical Wave to Wire (W2W) model, the wave structure interaction being modeled using linear potential theory. It will make use of one of the usual BEM solver such as WAMIT, Aqwa, Aquaplus, ... More details can be found in [Bhinder et al., 2010]
3. For modeling specific details, CFD codes might be requested. However, we don't believe that they are suitable for assessing the power production from wave power devices. Mostly because of CPU time, but also because it is well known that there have issues with propagating accurately gravity waves.

UCC: Wammit, Matlab (simulate toolbox), Mathematica, Numerical wave tank, Survil conditions simulated using CFD Second order – non-linear models.

AAU: Simple dynamic models. Wamit, Shipbem, CFD programmes like CFX, Fluent, Star, Open Foam, Naval Foam etc...

UEDIN: Firstly, I should state that I am only talking about numerical models that are used in Edinburgh University, other numerical models also exist.

From a hydrodynamic point of view, we use the commercial frequency-domain code WAMIT to model the response of both single and multiple devices. This is a radiation/diffraction code which assumes linear (Airy) waves and small body motions.

Using hydrodynamic data from WAMIT (wave excitation and added mass and damping coefficients), an in-house, time-domain, hydrodynamic WEC array model has been developed at Edinburgh. This code can model transient behaviour and allows the inclusion of nonlinear external forces, such as nonlinear PTO and mooring forces. The time-domain model uses a state-space approach to replace the difficult radiation convolution terms.

Edinburgh University researchers are also members of the international Wave Energy Converter Array Network (WECAN). This network of researchers has recently written a review paper on numerical hydrodynamic modelling techniques for arrays of wave energy converters but it also applies to individual devices. The title of this review paper is "A Review of Numerical Modelling of Wave Energy Converter Arrays" and it will be presented at the OMAE conference held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012.

The time-domain array model developed at Edinburgh has also been incorporated into a larger Edinburgh wave-to-wire model. This wave-to-wire code can simulate directional, irregular seas. In addition, it can model hydraulic PTOs in each device as well as the offshore and onshore electrical network. The model is truly bi-directional, in that disturbances in the sea can be seen in the electrical network and vice-versa.

HOW WELL CAN YOU ENSURE MODEL ACCURACY (E.G., BY USING LABORATORY TEST/WATER TANK/WAVE BASINS)?

IST: The state-of-the-art numerical simulation models are relatively accurate in small waves but not so much in high waves, it being critical for survivability conditions (extreme waves). In those cases non-linear and possibly viscous models need to be used. In very resonance conditions (sinusoidal waves close to the resonance frequency leading to very large device excursions) state-of-the-art models are also not accurate.

ECN: W2W model must be validated against scale model tests. In ECN, a large wave basin is available (50m long, 30m wide, 5m deep, 48 independent wavemakers) for that purpose. Usual scale is 1/10 to 1/20 to validation tests.

ECN References:

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UCC: Viscosity, important, in small scale. Pretty good today in measuring what's going on in the basin. Several scales, suggest to incorporate as a standard numerical modeling with experiments to get a feeling of the accuracy. Do you simulate what you intend - using model tests. Marinet, course on how to model test wave energy systems,

AAU: The answer depends on the scale and the purpose of the testing.

In a typical testing in scale 1:30, forces like mooring forces can be measured and up scaled with an accuracy better than plus/minus 2%. Overtopping can be measured and up scaled with an accuracy better than plus/minus 5-10%. Energy production (including control systems) is typically the big problem. If the PTO system is simply scaled, a typical accuracy can be as low as plus/minus 30%. Therefore PTO systems are normally not just scaled but modeled in such a way that their effects on movements are modeled correct.

UEDIN: The results of the hydrodynamic time-domain array model have been tested against those of WAMIT for situations where both approaches are valid (i.e. "steady-state" oscillations). The results of the hydrodynamic time-domain array model are also going to be compared against tank test results. Edinburgh University researchers are part of a European team who will be performing tank testing on arrays of model wave energy devices in DHI's wave basin later this year. These tests have been entitled "WECwakes" and they are being funded by EU's Hydralab IV programme.

12.3 Standardisation / certifying authorities

Concerning Standardisation and certification DNV has been contacted, represented by Claudio Bittencourt who has provided the information below.

LEVEL OF DOCUMENTATION CONCERNING MAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR OCEAN ENERGY DEVICES

DNV has a risk-based certification process for tidal and wave energy converters. This process is defined in our OSS-312 Certification of Tidal and Wave Energy Converters. The OSS-312 informs a generic list of document and defines the extent of the scope of certification. The certification is not only related to safety and environment, but to functional requirements that are key for the success of marine renewables.

Thus, the documentation required for certification is related to the wide range of aspects (from load derivation and interaction between power take-off and structural response to power performance). Nevertheless, this documentation is no different to what the developer / designer needs to generate to define and confirm satisfactory performance of the technology.

The extent and depth of documentation required is confirmed on a technology by technology basis as part of the initial steps of the certification process and is function of the results from the technology assessment and failure mode identification + risk ranking; i.e. it is a direct function of the criticality and associated risks to the success of the technology.

The certification process is a gradual process that evolves at the same level as the technology evolves and this is reflected on the different certification deliverables. The OSS-312 will be revised soon, but the process described there and principles are still valid.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR WAVE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

The main specific requirement is to perform the initial steps of the certification process that involves the definition of the certification basis (i.e. all elements that defines the limitations and boundaries of the technology and what are its targets), technology assessment (for identification of degrees of novelty of the technology) and the failure mode identification and risk ranking (that allows to identify what are the failure modes, how critical they are and what is necessary to do to deal with them, i.e. to mitigate the risks).

As there is a large diversity of concepts for wave energy conversion, there is no single or simple specific special requirements that can be highlighted except for the fact that the needs to the certification process are related to the assurance of the overall performance of the technology.

Naturally, for floating devices (wave or tidal) there are special attention to be paid to export power cable, the mooring analysis (considering the power take-off), fatigue aspects, corrosion stability and water tightness, installation methodology and derivation of power performance.

Appendix I Sources of Ocean Energy

Wave Energy

Wave energy [w74] is the energy contained in the waves generated by the wind on the surface of the sea and the associated motion of the ocean extending down below the sea surface down about a quarter of a wavelength.

Not surprisingly, the largest wave resources are found on the middle of the northern and southern hemisphere where the winds are strongest. Waves generated in one location can on deep water travel long distances with little loss of energy, until waves approach shallow water regions and coastlines where the energy is dissipated, through bottom friction and wave breaking and power levels reduce.

The annual average wave power level in kW/m on different locations can be seen on the map Figure 34.

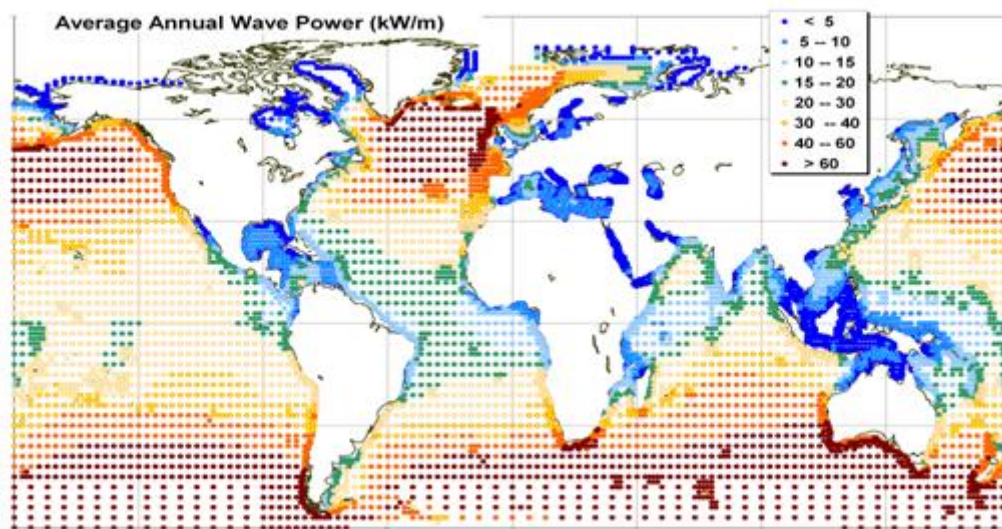


Figure 34 Average annual Wave Power levels expressed in kW/m in the Oceans (Oceanor)

Waves are predictable from weather forecasts. Based on satellite information and meteorological models, the wave conditions at a certain location can be predicted with reasonable accuracy about 6 – 8 hours in advance.

Finally, the wave energy resource can be harvested not too far off the coast of many countries as can be seen on the map. In fact, the length of the coastline multiplied with the power level can help give an estimate of the wave energy resource.

Even though waves appear similar, the wave conditions at selected location can be quite different in terms of the statistical distribution of sea-states. Some ocean areas such as the North Sea is dominated by steeper waves compared to the waves further south such as off the coast of Portugal where the waves are dominated by swells, as described in the OES -Task 2.1 report [14]. The highest waves at the site, the site specific tidal variations and current conditions must be considered in the design of the applied ocean energy technology.

Tidal Energy

Tidal energy [w75] is the energy associated with the tides created by the relative forces and motions between the sun, moon and earth and the rotation of the earth. The tides are therefore predictable in time, as periodic events visible in terms of high and low water conditions once or twice a day.

Associated with the tidal water level variation are tidal streams or currents which can have significant speeds depending on location. Tidal Streams are characterized by high maximum speed (more than 2m/sec) and by changing direction once or twice a day depending on the location and tidal variation at the site. Tidal energy can be utilized by tidal barrage - or tidal stream systems.

Tidal Barrage

- Tidal barrage systems that utilize the difference in water level variation during high and low tides in combination with dams and reservoirs.

There are a definite number of sites where tidal barrages can be build, in connection with natural estuaries, the most well known is the La Rance 240 MW plant in France which has been in operation since 1965. In Korea, the Shiwa 250 MW tidal plant is under construction and other sites such as Bay of Fundy in Canada and the Severn in the UK under consideration.

Tidal Stream

- Tidal Stream, systems that convert the flow of water – much like windmills convert the flow of air.

Tidal stream sites are often found at places where the speed of water flow is increased by local bathymetry and narrow sounds between islands.

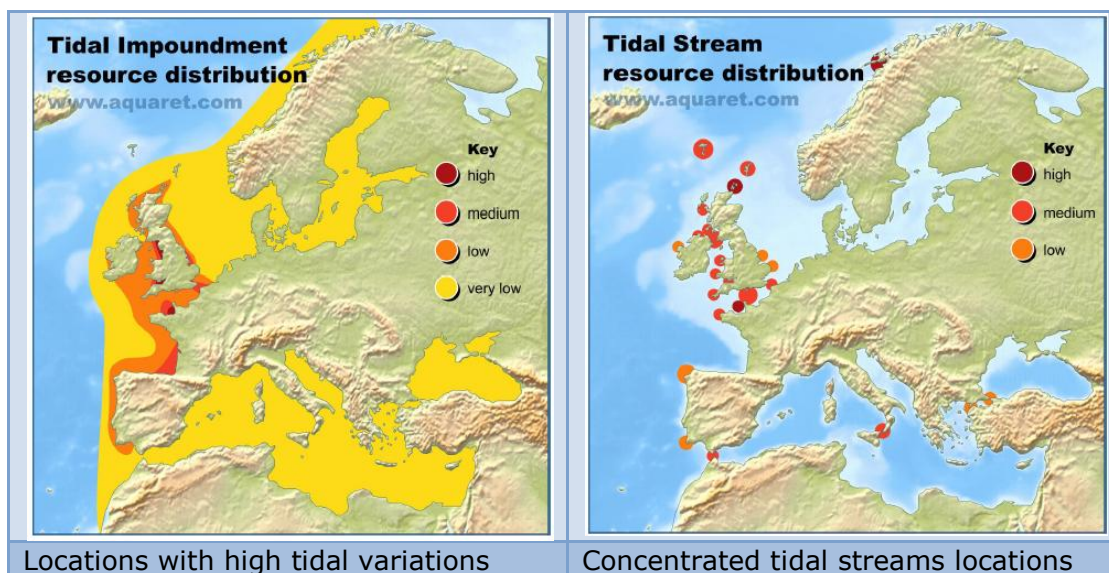


Figure 35 The potential sites for Tidal energy within Europe is located in the UK, Ireland, France and Norway [w66]

Ocean Currents

Ocean currents are very characteristic flow patterns in the oceans. Some of these currents are created and driven by the winds and some by the differences in water density. Compared to tidal streams, the ocean currents maintain the same direction and their speed is typically much lower and therefore expected to be more expensive to convert into electricity.

Surface Currents

The world's prevailing winds help bringing the warm air from the equatorial zones towards the poles. The winds create giant circular currents patterns in the major ocean basins (like gyres). Subtropical high-pressure areas (at around 30° latitude) drive these gyres. Coriolis forces cause water in motion to be pulled to the right in the northern hemisphere and to the left in the southern hemisphere.

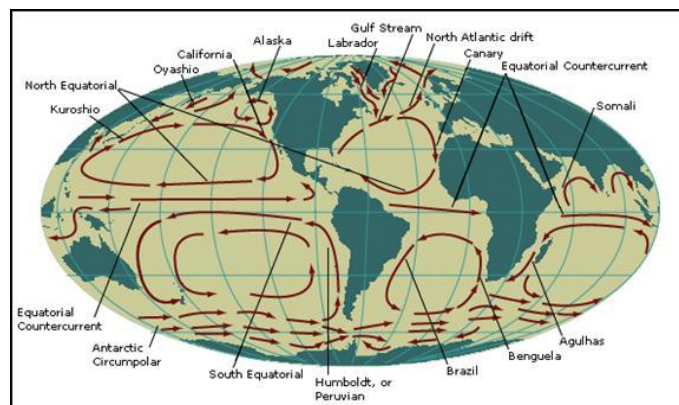


Figure 36 Major Ocean Surface currents

Deep Ocean Currents

Currents created by differences in water density are sometimes called the ocean "Great Ocean Conveyor Belt." This circulation helps transporting heat from the equator towards the poles, as shown on figure 5, and as such other vital principle of nature. Cold or salty water is denser and sinks, whereas warm or less salty water is less dense and rises. In Polar regions, much of the ocean water is tied up in ice sheets. The salt remains in the liquid water, so the water in these areas is very salty, as well as very cold. This water is consequently very dense and sinks. It is replaced by water from lower latitudes. The deep, dense water then moves slowly across the ocean floor and eventually rises in warmer latitudes.

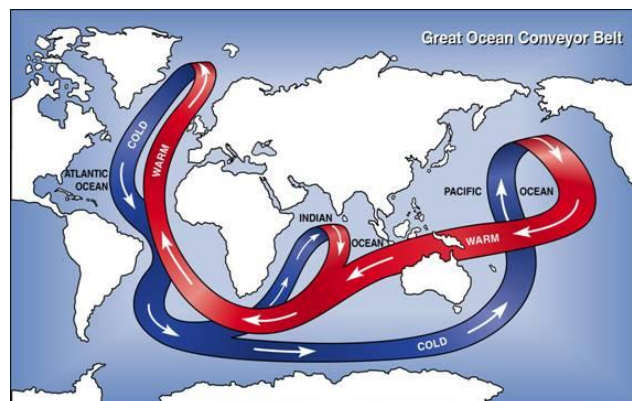


Figure 37 Great Ocean Conveyor Belt [w76]

Ocean Thermal

Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) [77] is in principle the same as a heat pump i.e. a system that generates power using the temperature difference between warm and cold water. OTEC works best when the temperature difference between the warmer, top layer of the ocean and the colder, deep ocean water is more than 20°C. These conditions exist in tropical areas, indicated on the map below.

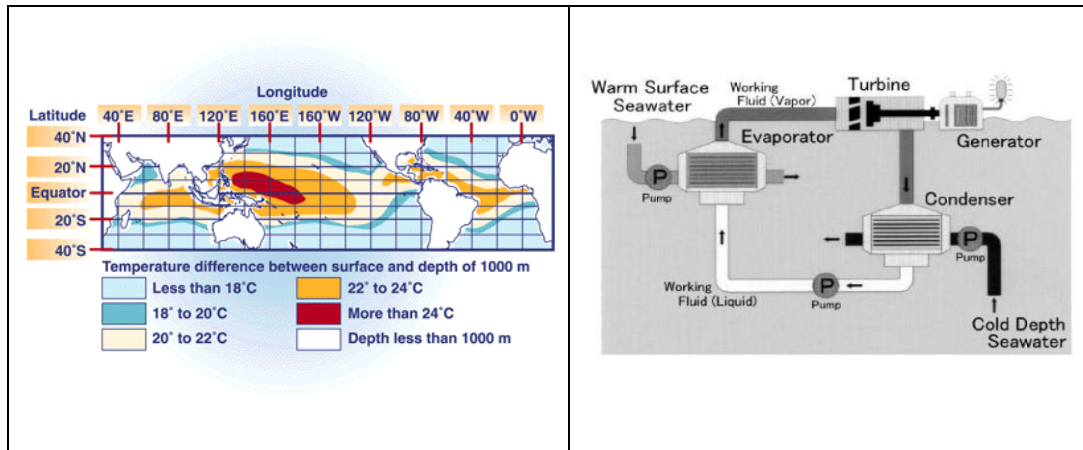


Figure 38 Temperature difference between surface and 1000 meter depth an example of a closed cycle OTEC converter.

Cold water is typically more than 1000 meter below the surface and OTEC plants therefore require a long intake pipe to bring up the cold water to the surface. With a temperature difference of 20 degrees and a flow of 1 m³/s, an OTEC plant can generate about 2.5 MW and in addition about 5,000 m³ of desalinated water each day. Further aquaculture products such as salmon and lobster thrive in the nutrient-rich, deep seawater from the OTEC process. Thus a valuable food supplement can be cultivated in the up welded deep-ocean water. There are three types of OTEC processes: closed-cycle, open-cycle, and hybrid-cycle.

Closed-cycle

In the closed-cycle system, heat transferred from the warm surface seawater causes a working fluid (such as ammonia), to turn to vapour. The expanding vapours drive a turbine attached to a generator, which produces electricity. Cold seawater passing through a condenser containing the vaporized working fluid turns the vapour back into a liquid, which is then recycled through the system.

Open-cycle

Open-cycle OTEC uses the warm surface water as the working fluid. The water vaporizes in a near vacuum at surface water temperatures. The expanding vapour drives a low-pressure turbine attached to a generator, which produces electricity. The vapour, which has lost its salt and is almost pure fresh water, is condensed back into a liquid by exposure to cold temperatures from deep ocean water. If the condenser keeps the vapour from direct contact with seawater, the condensed water is desalinated.

Hybrid systems

Hybrid systems use parts of both open- and closed-cycle systems to optimize production of electricity and fresh water.

Osmotic power

Salinity gradient power or osmotic power [w78] is the power retrieved from the osmotic pressure difference in salt and fresh water. Osmotic power is a large renewable source of power - water evaporates from the surface of the sea, falls as rain on the continents and returns to the sea. Every m³/s of fresh water that runs into the sea can produce about 1 MW of osmotic power.

Two practical methods for generating power from the salt gradient are Reverse Electro Dialysis (RED), and Pressure Retarded Osmosis (PRO). Technologies have been confirmed in laboratory conditions and are being developed for commercial use.

Wetsus, a Dutch company, investigating reverse electro dialysis principles, has set-up an experimental installation in Harlingen. This pilot project is based on the RED Stack technology.

Statkraft in Norway completed a 10 kW prototype in 2009 to demonstrate the PRO technology.

So far, the cost of the membrane has been an obstacle, however, further research into membrane technologies can provide prospects for potential commercial use in the future.

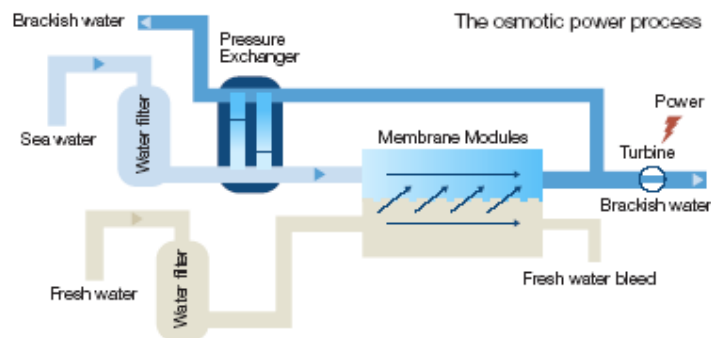
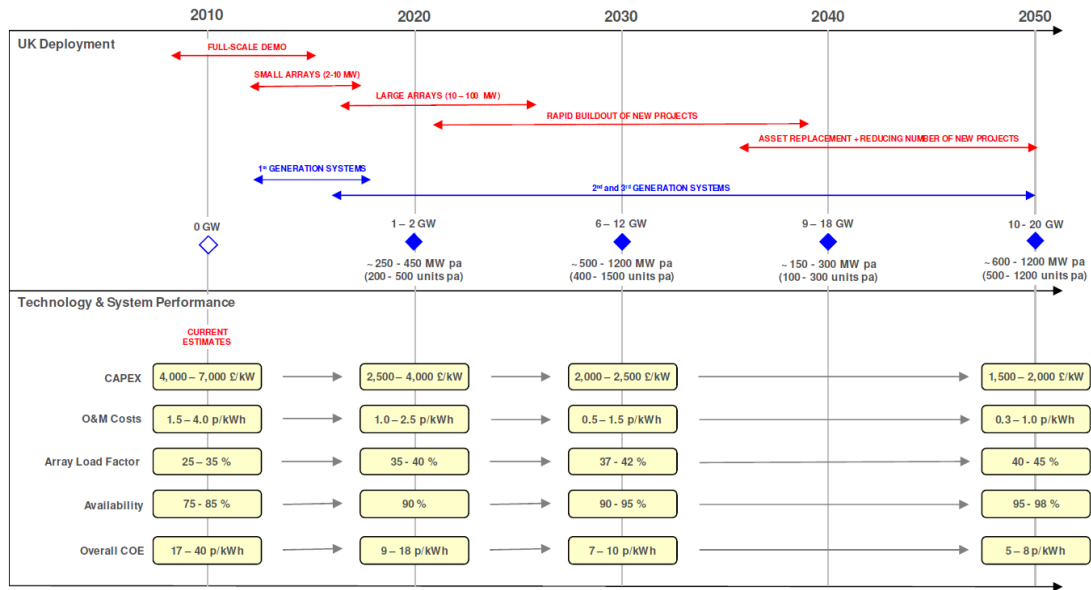


Figure 39 Principle of Osmotic power process PRO

Appendix II Ocean Energy Road Map

The Energy Technologies Institute 2010, UK

The ETI is a public-private partnership between global industries – BP, Caterpillar, EDF, E.ON, Rolls-Royce and Shell – and the UK Government tasked with accelerating affordable, clean, secure technologies needed to help the UK meet its 2050 climate change targets. It makes targeted investments in projects in offshore wind, marine, distributed energy, buildings, energy storage and distribution, carbon capture and storage, transport and bio energy. [w61]



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